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Benn portrait

Painting of politician one of my best, says artist Page 3



Memory Lane

Group to see future in milestone anniversary



Last-gasp joit

Saddlers so close to ending winless streak



of obesity feared for next year

OBESITY could cost Walsall

OBESITY could cost Walsall around £82 million a year due to the expense of treating people who are overweight, it has emerged.

New figures have revealed the possible extent of the problem in Walsall by 2015 if action is not taken.

It follows research which was carried out into the "serious health consequences" of children and adults who are overweight. A report said: "Obesity is a very significant contributor to illness and premature death in the borough.

"Serious health consequences include Type II diabetes, cardiovascular disease, liver disease, musculoskeletal disorders such as osteoarthritis, and certain cancers.

"Without action, over-

cancers.

"Without action, over-weight and obesity-related diseases will cost NHS Walsall an estimated £82m per year by 2015."

However stops are being

year by 2015."

However, steps are being taken to tackle weight and

increase physical activity within the borough. Between April and December last year, children's weight management programmes dealt with 341 children and their families, with 88 per cent either maintaining or reducing their body mass index. The free swimming initi-ative also has 9,044 regis-

Four held on missing Lola

FOUR people suspected of being involved in the alleged kidnap of a 13-month-old baby have been released on police bail. Among them were the child's mother.

Lola Page went missing during a supervised visit in Walsall on Friday but was found safe on Monday by detectives at an address on Gypsy Lane, Willenhall. Her mother Stacey Ball, aged 18, and a man were arrested and questioned.

Two men were arrested.

Two men were arrested in Walsall Wood. The four have not yet been charged.

£82m cost Julie tells how she became the first victim of Morris



Attack - Julie Taylor

IT was a bitterly cold December evening, and eight-year-old Julie Taylor was walking back from a family party. She shouldn't have been out on her own at night, and her father had told her to stay at home but she was determined not to miss out.

It was a decision that almost cost her her life. Evil Raymond Morris, who would go on to be the Midlands' most notorious child killer, chose her as his first victim, luring her into his car before attacking her and leaving her for dead. Amazingly she sur-

vived, but the mental scars have not healed 50 years on. After Morris died last week aged 84, she has spoken about the night her life changed. She is now a married mother of two, but wants to go by her maiden

name because some members of her family know nothing about her brush with death. She came face-to-face with the killer on December 2, 1964 when she walked the short distance from her family's home in Barracks Lane, Blakenall, to the party. She recalled: "It was a cold Tuesday evening and I went to my cousin's party although my dad had told me not to go. On my way home I saw a car parked about three doors away from our house.

"This bloke said 'hello' and said

he was my Uncle Len. I did have an Uncle Len who I hadn't seen since I was five and my Mom had told me he was coming home for Christmas from the Army. It was a plausible story. "The man said he would take me to my aunt's so I went in the car with him As we were driving along."

him. As we were driving along he

struck up conversation and offered me sweets which were on the back seat, but I recall that I didn't like the one I ate and spat it out. I put it in my pocket," she said. "Then he started asking about

"Then he started asking about what I was wearing which I thought was odd. I realised then that he wasn't my uncle and that something wasn't right. I got agitated and tried to get out of the car." Julie blacked out but remembers a passer-by finding her in a terrible state.

• Life ends - Page 5

Life ends - Page 5

IES SCAN TAL SO

by Laura Blyth

AN administration error that led to Walsall Manor Hospital keeping hold of the remains of almost 90 unborn babies for up to four years when they should have been sent to be cremated within months has been described as 'astonishing'.

The scandal came to light follow

ing an internal review.

Bosses at the hospital have apologised and a full independent investigation has been launched.

But Walsall Council's cabinet member for

public health, Councillor Zahid Ali, said on Tuesday: "If the hospital has blamed this all on an administrative error then I find that astonishing.

"It's important there is an independent review. In future they must review all the processes to make sure this does not happen

But he added the people of Walsall should not lose faith in the hospital adding: "This clearly is going to have an affect on a lot of people. The hospital needs to take steps so that the confidence in Walsall Manor Hospi

tal continues to be what it was."

It has emerged there were 86 occasions



Walsall Manor Hospital – where foetal remains were kept for up to four years without parents being informed, a review has revealed

where remains from miscarriages or terminations were kept for longer than they should have been After advice from clinicians, the trust

After advice from clinicians, the trust chaplaincy and relevant charities, hospital bosses have decided to only contact five women, where records indicate they would want to be informed, rather than cause 'widespread distress' to others.

Hotline

Two of the cases date back to 2010, a further two in 2011, a total of 30 in 2012 and then 52 up to December 2013.

Around 700 foetal remains are kept at

Malsall Manor every year until the appropriate paperwork has been completed. The hospital said it then 'appropriately disposes'

of foetal remains through the crematorium in line with 'usual processes'.

A dedicated hotline has also been set up

A dedicated notline has also been set up for anyone with concerns on 0345 835 7626. Such remains are usually stored in the hospital's mortuary for between one and three months. Then in the vast majority of occasions they are sent to be cremated.

Occasions they are sent to be cremated.

However, an error in getting documents signed off to allow this to happen led to the foetal remains in these cases being kept for up to four years.

In 73 cases they belonged to foetuses under 12 weeks with the remaining 13 being under 21 weeks.

That their expective Pichard Kibby wid.

Trust chief executive Richard Kirby said: "It is clear that in some cases the trust has kept remains following terminations and

miscarriages for longer than we should

miscarriages for longer than we should have done.

"I would like to apologise to each and every patient who has been affected by this and would like to reassure anyone who might be using our services now or in the future of our dedication in ensuring that this situation does not arise again.

Results

"We are confident we have contacted everyone we need to in relation to this

issue."
Mr Kirby said the results of the independ

ent review are expected at the end of April.
The hospital said it will 'appropriately
dispose' of the foetal remains through the
crematorium in line with 'usual processes'.

Traders may get given cut in rates

HALF-PRICE

HALF-PRICE business rates could be offered to Walsall traders in a bid to bring hundreds of empty shops back into use.

The move aims to get more than 300 unoccupied retail premises in the borough back into use during the next 18 months.

Members of the council's decision-making Cabinet

Members of the council's decision-making Cabinet were also being asked this week to agree a business rate relief of up to £1,000 to all occupied retail properties with a value of £50,000 or less or less.

The plans are being put forward on the back of gov-

forward on the back of government guidelines and around 900 business around the borough could benefit from the steps from this April to March 2016.

They would apply wholly or mainly used as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments.

establishments.

The moves to offer a business rate relief of up to 50 per cent to reoccupy empty buildings would be for prem-

buildings would be for premises that have been unused for a year or more.
Karl Dipple, head of revenues, said: "Estimates show 900 businesses could benefit from the retail relief across Walsall from April 2014.
These are a unperty 297. There are currently 327 empty retail premises across Walsall that could be subject to the reoccupation relief."

More talks over scheme

COUNCIL chiefs will hold more talks with the developers of a proposed £1.5 million giant warehouse in Walsall in a bid to resolve a wrangle over food sales. Walsall Council planning

Walsall Council planning committee agreed to defer a decision over the JTF outlet that would sell bulk discount goods by re-opening a derelict site at the Bescot Retail Park. If it goes ahead the venture would bring 20 full and 40 part time posts, JTF planning consultation Jonathan Best said.

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Jail on hold for car insurance con trio

TWO women and a man who conspired together in a bid to commit a car insurance con with one of them claiming their BMW had been stolen have avoided immediate jail

Leanne Griffiths, of Walsall. heanne Griffins, of Walsan, made a false claim after reporting her car stolen from Sandwell Valley Country Park on April 10 last year to avoid paying a hefty repair bill

to get the faulty car fixed, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. The court was told she stood to benefit from around £3,000, but the car was

Irom around 23,000, but the car was later found at a farm in Stafford.
Couple Kelly Turton, aged 31, and Steve Beckles, 35, both of Valley Road, Hamstead, Birmingham, also appeared at court last Tuesday for being part of the conspiracy.
Mr Geoffrey Dann, prosecuting,

said 34-year-old Griffiths, of Forrest Road, had told police the three had driven to Sandwell Valley Country Park and she had left her car to go for a walk, but when she returned

for a waik, out when she returned it was gone.

He said she gave the value of the car as £6,000, but the insurance company was only likely to have paid out around £3,000. Turton also made a statement to the po-

present.
All three defendants pleaded All three detendants pleaded guilty to commit fraud by false representation. Judge Mi-chael Dudley gave each of them a 12-week prison sentence, suspended by 12 months, and a two-month cur-few from 7pm to 7am, and an order to pay an £80 victim surcharge.

Reprieve for vouth group set for move

A YOUTH centre whose building was earmarked for closure in the coming weeks will remain at the site as a new location has still not been found, it was revealed

today. Aldridge Manor House which has been the village youth club for 50 years, was due to close at the end of March as part of council

cuts.

But despite the decision being taken two years ago, council officers are yet to find a replacement site.

Bosses said the centre could remain there while

could remain there while they try to secure a new site. They insist locations are being considered. Walsall Council wants to sell the Grade II listed building for around £1million. The authority says it still wants to run a youth club in the village but is still to find an appropriate site. Around 30 angry residents attended a meeting at the Little Aston Road site last year to discuss the prolast year to discuss the pro-posals. But they left fuming as their pleas to retain the Manor House were rebuffed. The council's Integrated Young People's Support Service (IYPSS) has said it

is committed to providing services for young people from a permanent base.

Market plan put on view

SHOWCASE plans for Wal-SHOWCASE plans for Waisell Market will go on display at a public exhibition thisFriday and Saturday.

A feasibility study was launched and Walsall Council regeneration chiefs have

earmarked The Bridge as its

earmarked The Bridge as its preferred location.

A consultation on the proposals is taking place and members of the public will have the opportunity to comment and view the design layout at The New Art Gallery, Walsall. Regeneration chief, councillor Adrian Andrew, said the council was committed to finding a permanent base.

New store plan

THE Co-op plans torelocate its small convenience store, in Walsall Wood Road, Aldridge to a larger unit at the site of the former Cedar Tree pub opposite. Existing staff will transfer to the new store, and it is expected that around eight other jobs will be created.

People power wins as homes approved

A REGENERATION project which will see part of Walsall transformed with around 400 new homes has been given the go-ahead, and an open space has been saved.

The long-awaited scheme will see 243 homes off Keats Road, Harden, in the first phase of a multi-million pound rebuilding scheme. Another 134 homes are planned for between Chaucer Road and
Shakespeare Crescent.
And 25 homes are ear-

All sewn up

for liver unit

STUDENTS have helped raise £200 towards a liver transport unit at a hospital.

Learners who are study-

Learners who are study-ing sewing and dressmaking at Walsall Adult and Com-munity College (WACC) helped collect the cash for Birmingham Queen Eliza-beth hospital.

The money was raised

beth hospital.

The money was raised through a raffle organised by learners with participants paying 50p per ticket in hope of winning a prize.

Meanwhile, college tutor Margaret Hollowood, who supports learners on the sewing and drassmaking

money that will make a difference to people's lives.

"Some of our learners have had illnesses such as cancer, hip and knee replacements and heart problems.

"And because of this they."

cash boost

marked for the top of Shake-speare Crescent, near Well Lane on the Poets' estate. When first unveiled, the

scheme also included plans to build 240 homes on green belt land, known as the Lea.

But the proposals have since been dropped after residents objected.

An application has now

An approved at a meeting of Walsall Council's planning committee.

Councillor Garry Perry said: "Everyone will recall that the intention had been to include the Lea, but residents were subspace with

idents were unhappy with that part of it. "We have listened to the residents, and that plan was changed in support of the community's views. Resi-dents have been supportive

dents have been supportive of the application.
"The scheme is for a mix of affordable and social housing and we have an altogether positive application that will kick-start the rebuilding work in that area." The Lea will be kept as open space. Bosses at Walsall Housing Group said a scheme could be submitted to build on Goscote estate. Blakenall councillor Pete Smith said many people who

supports learners on the sewing and dressmaking course, explained: "I'm re-ally proud of our learners who have taken the time and the effort to organise a raffle every year to raise money that will make a dif-ference to resolvic lives."

Smith said many people who had lived on the Poets and Goscote estates which were both knocked down did not want to move out of their homes in the first place.

lems.

"And because of this, they understand the importance of donating money that will be used to develop new technologies to help those who are unwell.

"We hope the money we have readed not only hope. He launched a campaign with residents for affordable homes for rent to be rebuilt and for The Lea to be re-tained. "This is great news and long overdue," he said. have raised not only helps patients who need treat-ment, but also benefits their families too."

Howzat! Getting ready for play



Anthony Harris with Palfrey Junior School pupils Tahmida Begum and Maria Tabassun

Anthony Harris with Palfrey Junior School p
BALL games will return to once-contaminated Walsall playing fields after a decade.
Football is due to come back to Broadway
West Playing Fields in September.
Cricket is then expected to be back from
the 2015/16 season after a \$400,000 project
to get the land suitable for use. An archery
taster session was held at the site, off the
Broadway, on Saturday to help show the
site is becoming a source of sport again.
Organised sport was stopped on the
seven acre site just over a decade ago when

soil tests revealed the presence of heavy metals. Walsall Council has installed of an engineering cap and new top soil to eliminate the any health risk. Work to create three football pitches and a cricket square, which needs more specialist attention, will take longer to bed in. A further £75,000 has been earnarded to improve changing pretake longer to bed in. A further £15,000 has been earmarked to improve changing pro-vision and a Broadway West Playing Fields forum has also been set up. Leisure chief councillor Anthony Harris said: "An end is in sight for the work."



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Exercise is on the up, pledge by borough

HEALTH bosses have insisted that the number of people doing regular exer-cise in Walsall has increased - despite new figures revealing obesity could cost the town £82 million a year by

It follows research which It follows research which was carried out into the 'serious health consequences' of children and adults who are overweight. But chiefs say there is ev-

are overweight.
But chiefs say there is evidence that more people are taking up exercise and they hope the problem will not be as bad as predicted.

Sport England's recent Active People survey shows the number of adults taking part in three blocks of 30 minutes exercise per week has increased from 16 to 22 per cent of the population between 2006 and 2013.

The number of people taking part in no exercise has reduced by 7.9 per cent, or 15,800 adults, since 2006. This includes 2.5 per cent, 5,000 adults, in the last year.

Councillor Zahid Ali said the authority was address-ing the problem with ex-ercise initiatives and gym discount schemes. He said: "There is a particular prob-lem with our Year 6 children where obesity rates are one of the worst in the West Midlands."

Child safety checks due

FREE child seat safety checks will be carried out in the Black Country.

Firefighters are working alongside the Walsall Road Safety Partnership to carry

Safety Partnership to carry out checks.

The next one will take place outside Tesco in Littleton Street West on April 9 between 9.30am and 3pm.
Station Commander Daw Hilton said: "We're really pleased to be supporting these events.

"Eight firefighters will also get vital refresher training about child car seats.

ing about child car seats, thanks to funding from the Partnership."

Inspiring talk

MORE than 100 people attended a ceremony with an inspirational speech from former Ofsted inspector Nina Julka Learners from English for Speakers of Other Languages at Walsall Adult and Community College attended the event at Palfrey Church.

Benn portrait one of my best says artist NEWS



Tony Benn with the portrait and Andrew Tift

A PICTURE is worth a thousand words And given Tony Benn liked to wax lyrical, this one must be worth a million.

Standing nearly 6ft tall, this portrait by Walsall artist Andrew Tift is one of the most popular that hangs in the House of

It was painted in 1998, when Mr Tift was living in Great Wyrley.

The artist joined the legions of people

paying tribute to the veteran left winger and former minister, who has died aged 88. When the former Tory MP for South

Staffordshire Lord Cormack was chairman

arranged for artist Andrew Tift, then based in Great Wyrley but now living in Highgate,

Walsall, to paint Tony Benn.

The image of Mr Benn, in a chair, smoking a pipe, painted in 1998, is an iconic and enduring one of the man who would leave Parliament to 'devote more time to politics'.

Mr Tift, aged 45, met Mr Benn again last year to be interviewed by Tony Benn's son

Hilary about the painting.

A past winner of the BP Portrait Award said: "It's still one of my best ones and one of the ones that's most fondly remembered.

Tony Benn has become such an important national figure. It's not just me, it's who Tony is. The one I get asked most about is

He revealed how the painting had taken four sittings and almost a year to produce. "It was great to meet him," he said. "He

to was a national treasure. And he was always very nice to me. He wasn't the sort of person that would just be polite and give lip of the wasn't would just be polite and give lip of the wasn't wasn'

service, he was a genuine people person."

Last year Tony Benn said of his painting:
"I've got copies of it at home. I have a great feeling of affection for it."

Hooty's revamp gets green light

THE planned revamp of a

THE planned revamp of a former discount superstore which is being taken over by a home furnishing chain has been approved.

Hooty's, which closed in December will be taken over by The Range, securing the future of around 100 jobs. The store at Longacres Industrial Estate, Rose Hill, is due to be opened on April 11 by Laurence Llewelyn Bowen.

The plans for new en-

The plans for new entrances, signs and security bollards went before planners last Thursday.

Missing boy, 12, is safe and well

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy who went missing for five days after failing to come home from school has been found safe and well, police have said.

said.

Jaspreet Khun Khun from Park Hall, Walsall, was reported missing to police shortly before 6pm on Wednesday March 5. The Aldridge School pupil was found at a family address in Southampton last Monday.

Monday.
Det Con Joanne Myatt-Jones said Jaspreet was found in Hampshire.

Eureka, it's a concert date

THE Eureka Machines will in the Black Country later this month. It is being held at the Goldmine Centre, Lower Hall Lane, Walsall, on March 29 from 7pm.

on March 29 from 7pm.
The event is organised
by the Eerie Ink Tattoo
Studio and costs £5 in advance of £6 on the door.
For more information visit
the visit the www.eerieink.
co.uk website or call 01922
620655.

Brownies to take over village for

MORE than 100 Brownies will be taking over a village to mark the organisation's 100th birthday.

The Brownies section of

the Girlguiding charity is celebrating its centenary year in 2014.

The 1st Longdon Brown-ies has organised the 24 Hours Village Take Over in Longdon, near Rugeley. There will be games,

Princess show

TICKETS are on sale for a new production. The Heartless Princess is being staged at Aldridge Youth Theatre from April 3 to 5. Performances start at 7.30pm. Call 01922 458615 to book.

Probe is launched over theft of pregnant woman

AN INVESTIGATION is under way after pregnant woman whose children had been taken into care stole another patient's identity to give birth.

It is believed the woman hid her true name from Walsall Manor Hospital so she would not have to give up her fourth child. Security has now been Security has now been tightened at the hospital. Kay Costin only found out her identity had been stolen when she received a letter congratulating her on the birth of her child while she was still pregnant.

The hospital launched a rope into what had have the still have the still be the stil

probe into what had hap-

happened. They soon spoke to the midwife who said a

Business challenge for pupils

MORE than 200 primary school pupils took part in an enterprise challenge which saw them come up with new business ideas.

Aldridge School, in Tynings Lane, hosts the Aldridge Primary School Challenge every year for year five pupils from neighbouring junior schools.

Students are invited to

bouring junior schools.
Students are invited to
the Walsall school over two
days and are paired up with
Aldridge pupils to form mini-enterprise groups.
Each group has to come
up with a new business
idea and then present it to
a team of judges made up of
business leaders from the
local community. Among
the schools taking part were
Whetstone Field Primary
in Aldridge and Cooper and

Whetstone Field Primary in Aldridge and Cooper and Jordan Primary, also in Aldridge, who came up with winning business ideas.

Lorenzo Cosco, from Education Business Services, which organised the two-day challenge, said; "I am always staggered at the ideas and presentations these young people make even Sir Alan Sugar would be impressed."

Fond farewell to fertility expert Vicki



Vicki, front left, with Beth Elton, and Barney and Toby. Back Lynsey and George Bissell; Connie and Jill Anthony-Ackery

SHE has helped to bring joy to the parents of almost 1,000 babies by performing crucial IVF treatment – but now specialist fertility nurse Vicki Robinson is saying a fond farewell to her patients and colleagues.

l thought sometine was not lowing me," she said.
Richard Kirby, chief Executive at Walsall Health-care NHS Trust, said: "The incident which occurred in summer 2013 related to an identity theft by an indi-After 18 years of being the part of the miracle of life at Midland Fertility Services, she is taking early retire

vidual using our maternity service. This resulted in a serious incident investi-gation both internally and And to help send her on her way, she was joined by four children whose parents she helped to treat – with across a multi-agency net-

the mother of each being a former colleague. They were George Bissell, aged one, of Stafford, Toby and Bar-ney Elton, aged four, of Sutton Cold-field, and Connie Anthony-Acker-, aged 11, of Ledbury, in Herefordshire.

Mrs Robinson, 47, of Four Oaks, Aldridge, said: "Midland Fertility has been a wonderful place to work. "I will miss both staff and patients enor-mously but look forward to hearing about the continued success for both the centre and the patients."

She now plans to go travelling. She joined the centre based in Aldridge in 1996 where she developed her ultrasound scanning skills and was soon able to perform both IVF egg collections and embryo transfers – a role usually carried out by doctors to this

Mrs Robinson, aged 47, was promoted to the role of nurse manager in 1999, but after seven years she decided concentrate on egg collections



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AFTER this week's suggestion of a super-city to be called Greater Birmingham, there was outrage further west and even a demand for it to be called Greater Black Country. The only fair way forward is to find the exact centre of the proposed city and take that as the name. After much measuring on the map I have it. Greater Pleck

SHERYL Sandberg, the Facebook chief executive and Anna Maria Chavez, the head of American Girl Scouts, are heading a campaign to ban the word "bossy" on the grounds that being called bossy undermines the confidence of girls. What a pair of bossyboots.

00000000

IN LIFE, unspeakable. In death, unimpeachable. A shame some of the nice things said about Bob Crow since hisdeath were not said before. Two things made me like him. Firstly, I always admire people who speak up for others. Secondly, I never use the Tube.

ED Miliband says a Labour government would not hold a referendum on membership of the EU unless Britain is asked to transfer more powers to Brussels. Imagine the fun the lawyers could have defining "powers," "asked," "transfer" and "to Brussels." What Miliband really means is that the British people will never be allowed to pull out. Which, to be fair, is much the same as David Cameron means. The net result of Cameron and Miliband's EU dithering will be a landslide for Ukip in the EU elections in May. It's that opportunity we humble voters que every five years to thumb our noses at ble voters get every five years to thumb our noses at the big political parties with that wonderful line from Romeo and Juliet: a plague on both your houses.

HOW could the crisis-hit Co-Op Bank, having discovered a £1.5 billion black hole in its accounts, even consider awarding its new (and now resigned) boss a £3.6 million package? Simple. All it requires is an understanding of bankenomics, a black art which should not be confused with consoling standard by the standard of the standard with economics or anything resembling sound budgeting. Bankenomics dictates that when a bank makes a huge profifit it clearly has to reward its senior staff, so it's massive bonuses all round. Bankenomics also dictates that when a bank makes a huge loss, it clearly has to attract better staff. So it's massive bonuses all round.

HAROLD Macmillan was once asked by a journalist what he most feared in politics and replied: "Events, dear boy, events." Events certainly overtook Evan Davis's programmes, Mind the Gap (BBC2), examining the gulf between London and the rest of Britain. No study of London is complete without mentioning the curious fact that the massive influx of the global super-rich now influences UK foreign policy. How could Britain seriously intervene in Vladimir Putin's Crimean adventure when Vlad's pals might respond by taking themselves and their billions out of London, precipitating the biggest property crash in history? Dollars and roubles, dear boy. Dollars and roubles.

CAN understand some New Zealanders wanting to change their national flag on the grounds that it is too much like the Australian flag and, with its Union Jack, has echoes of colonialism. I can understand, too, the desire to replace it with the fern leaf, the proud symbol of New Zealand. But a fern leaf on a black background? Black is the colour of mourning and black flags are associated with pirates and Muslim extremists. The black flag with a fern leaf would be perfect for the Auckland branch of al Qaeda. 00000000

AT a trade fair in Hanover, David Cameron looks forward to a new industrial revolution when billions of everyday objects such as fridges will be able to "talk to each other" over the internet. That's right, Prime Minister. And at night the toys all come to life and dance around the nursery. Perhaps it's time for a nice liedown . . .

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Baby found safe and father arrested Brass band

Stuart Adams, aged 30, left his partner's home in Walsall with partner's nome in Waisall with nine-week-old Lana-Mai 'in un-planned circumstances' in the early hours of Monday morning.

The infant was found at an address in Pleck, Walsall, Monday afternoon and taken to hospital for

A BABY taken by her father after an argument with his partner has been found safe and well. checks. She was handed to police on the same street from which she went missing 14 hours earlier.

Mr Adams was arrested in Wal-sall following a short chase on foot. He was arrested on suspicion of assault and abduction. Chief Supt Dave Sturman, commander of Wal-sall, said: "I am relieved and pleased to be able to say that Lana-Mai is safe and well. She has been taken

to hospital as a precaution to be checked over.

"We would like to thank the people of Walsall and beyond for their help in this fast moving enquiry."

Police were called to 'a domestic incident' in Prince Street, Pleck, at around 2.20am. "There had been a bit of an argument," Mr Sturman said. Officers spent Monday carrying out searches of several

On Monday night residents spoke of their relief. One man, who did not want to be named, said: "I think everyone is just glad she was found. You hear terrible stories so when I heard she was missing I was worried, Thank God she's okay."

Mr Adams_was being questioned

to feature at event for Rosie

A BRASS band will perform a concert to raise money for a charity set up in memory of a schoolgirl who was fatally stabbed.

West Midlands Police Brass Band will stage the concert at Aldridge Youth Theatre, in Noddy Park Road, on April 12 in aid of Rosie's Helping Hands.

Karen Ross, founder of Rosie's Helping Hands, said: "This is the first time we have organised a concert and are delighted that West Midlands Police Band have kindly agreed to perform

Midlands Police Band have kindly agreed to perform and to help raise funds. "We really hope this will be a resounding success and people will have a very en-joyable time.

The money raised from "The money raised from the concert will help to-wards providing small voluntary groups in the area working with vulnerable children and young people, with equipment, services and facilities."

The concert starts at 7.30pm.
Tickets cost £6 and are available on 01922 456398.

The charity was set up by Karen and Sean Ross following the fatal stabbing of their 16-year-old daughter Rosie in 2001, in a random and motiveless attack in Birmingham's Centenary Square

Bullied' teen found hanged, inquest told

A TEENAGER who moved to another school because of bullying was found hanged after his new classmates picked on him, an inquest was told.

Joshua Maddox, 15, who had learning difficulties, was found dead at his home in Persehouse Street, Walsall, by his younger

sister in January last year.
An inquest heard he had been threatened with a knuckleduster by one child, and punched in the chest by another during a campaign of bullying.
His mother, Michelle Maddox.

said he had left Deansfield School, Wolverhampton, to attend St Thomas More Catholic School, Wil-

Thomas More Catholic School, Wil-lenhall, because he was being picked on by other pupils. But the bullying continued, the hearing was told. "When he moved to St Thomas More he had to move down a year otherwise he thought he would not pass his GCSEs. It was horrible," she said.

Late

"He had no help from the school and because of his mild learning difficulties he was constantly picked on by other kids. The children used to tell him to go back to his own year. They told him they didn't want him there. One child came at him with a knuckleduster and on another occasion he was punched in the chest." Miss Maddox said although she spoke to the school she felt he was not given the support he needed until it was too late. "I spoke to the school about the bullying but they never acted on it," she said.
"The only incident they dealt with was when he was being punched in the chest. It was Christmas by the

the chest. It was Christmas by the the chest. It was Christmas by the time they sorted out any extra support. By then it was too late. They offered support after too many years of us struggling and Joshua struggling." He was taking medication for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and suffered from autism. Dr Dragana Radibra-



tovic-Cvijan, a consultant histo-pa-

tovic-Cvijan, a consultant histo-pathologist at Walsall Manor Hospital, said she conducted a post-mortem and said the cause of his death was strangulation by hanging.

"His family said he had been bulled at school and they had been concerned the medication he was taking for ADHD was not working," she said. "They said he was sent to bed early because he and his brother had been stealing food from the kitchen that was meant for the family's evening meal.

the kitchen that was meant for the family's evening meal.

"His stepfather checked on him once during the night and he was asleep in his bunk."

Clinical psychiatrist Dr Pauline Forster told the inquest she had started working with Joshua in February 2012. Joshua had difficulties with yerbal communication and found it hard to explain emotional

issues," she said. "He had difficulty socialising and making friends. His ADHD was complicated and difficult

"We encourage children like Joshua to have extra support in school. I wrote to the school to try school: I wrote to the school to try
and arrange a meeting but they
never responded. He would tell me
he was happy at school, so it was
difficult to help him, even though it
was clear to his family he was not

happy."
She said Joshua had changed the medication for his ADHD in the weeks leading up to his death.
Asked to describe her son, Miss Maddox said: "He used to try to make us laugh but he was always in trouble." She added: "Joshua didn't know how to talk to people. He just liked to be in his own world playing on his computer."

Joshua Maddox - threatened with knuckleduster St Thomas More Catholic School, in Willenhall

Stepfather Philip Downes and his mother Michelle

Senior Coroner Robin Balmain adjourned the inquest for further

adjourned the inquest for further investigations.

St Thomas More headteacher Peter Mayland said: "Everyone at St Thomas More Catholic School is deeply saddened and shocked by the tragic death of Joshua. He was a popular boy with many friends and a bright future.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time, especially those who are students at our school. As a school we have a 'zero

cially those who are students at our school. As a school we have a 'zero tolerance' approach to bullying, which is entirely incompatible with our Christian values."

He said an Ofsted report in January had highlighted that strengths of the school are that 'students say that they feel safe in school' and that 'bullying is dealt with effectively'."

Concept

Robbers hit man on head

A MAN was struck over head with the head with a weapon believed to be a hammer in broad daylight on a busy street in Aldridge.

Robbers ambushed two men in their car and stole an undisclosed sum of cash

an undisclosed sum of cash after they had visited Nat-West bank just after 4pm last Thursday. Detectives believe the men, aged 30 and 32, may have been followed. They were set upon as they parked near the post office in Northgate. The robbers escaped in a light blue Mondeo. Witnesses should call police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Delays warning

MOTORISTS are facing de-lays during water main con-nection work which is due to finish on Monday Tem-porary traffic signals are ex-pected to be in place along Green Lane, Walsall Wood, until March 24. This is be-tween the junctions of Hall Lane and Oakwood Close.

UP TO









Raymond Morris is taken to court with a blanket over his head



An Austin saloon car which belonged to child killer Morris



Ex-officer relieved at end of a chapter

Report by Laura Blyth

HE was described as 'cold,

cruel and just plain wicked'.
Child killer Raymond Morris,
'the Cannock Chase Murderer', was
sentenced to life in jail for the horrific rape and murder of schoolgirl

Christine Darby in the 1960s.
He was prime suspect, though never charged, over the killings of six-year-old Margaret Reynolds, of Aston, Birmingham and Diane Joy Tift, five, of Bloxwich in 1966 wich in 1966.

Morris made a bid to be released, with his solicitors claiming to have uncovered police misconduct, but the case was rejected by the Criminal Cases Review Commission in 2010.

Searched

Then in February this year it was confirmed the killer would die in jail after the Court of Appeal found whole life sen-tences should continue to be used for the most serious of crimes following a ruling

most serious of crimes following a ruing by the European Courts. Margaret Reynolds went missing on her way to school in Aston on September 8, 1965. Two thousand people searched for the youngster following her disappearance

pearance.
Then Diane Tift disappeared on a short walk to her grandmother's house in Bloxwich on December 30. The bodies of both girls were found by a workman dumped in a ditch at Mansty Gully on Cannock Chase on January 12, 1966.
A huge police investigation followed.



e ends for

Child killer Raymond Morris

Then, in August 19, 1967 seven-year-old Christine Darby was enticed into a grey Austin A55 car by a man near her home in Camden Street, Walsall. The youngster had left her home to play with friends when she was kidnapped at

with friends when she was kidnapped at around 2pm.
Witnesses said they saw a man who spoke in a local accent in a grey car. Search parties were sent out to try to find the youngster. More than 1,000 people joined the search.
Descriptions of the suspect car led detectives to question various locals, including Morris. As the search for Christine intensified, a policeman found the youngster's underwear on the Chase

youngster's underwear on the Chase



Margaret Reynolds - body found

and Scotland Yard detectives were called in. Christine's body was found by a soldier on August 22, 1967, only a mile from where Margaret and Diane were

The three murders were similar in that each victim was coaxed into a car while near her home, then killed after being sexually assaulted. Christine, Margaret and Diane lived within a 17-mile

garet and Diane lived within a 17-mile radius of each other and near the A34 that passes through Cannock Chase. Some 150 detectives visited 39,000 homes, interviewed 80,000 people and checked more than a million car forms. The hunt was led by Sir Stanley Bailey, Staffordshire's Assistant Chief Con-



Victim Christine Darby

stable at the time. A team was brought together and murder headquarters was set up in New Penkridge Road, Cannock. The breakthrough came on November 4, 1968, when 10-year-old Margaret Aulton escaped an abduction attempt by a man driving a green and white Ford Corsair in Walsall.

Alibi

A witness, a housewife, noted the car's registration number, which police later traced back to Morris.

Throughout the investigation, Morris

had been spoken to on four occasions but he was ruled out of Christine's death after his wife Carol gave him an alibi



Diane Tift, who was also murdered

But, after discovering pornographic images of children in his flat, his wife turned him in to police and admitted the alibi she gave was false. Police arrested Morris 15 months after Christine's body

was found.

Morris, who was born in Walsall and lived in a council-owned flat in Green Lane, was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in February 1969

The former engineer was locked up for nearly 45 years.
Former detective chief superintendent Pat Molloy, one of three leading officers on the case, maintained in the years that followed that he had no doubt Morris was guilty of killing Christine.

POLICE officer who helped bring Raymond Morris described his death as 'the end of a chapter'.

Maureen Freeman was only two years into her ca-reer with Staffordshire Poreer with Staffordshire Po-lice when a little girl's body was discovered on Cannock Chase.

Then aged 23, she played a pivotal role in the investi-gation that led to the even-tual arrest of the notorious child killer.

She admitted a sense of relief that he had died
but said the pain would
live on for the families he had torn apart.

Ms Freeman said: "My immediate thought when I heard he had died, was that this really brings some closure in a way." closure in a way.

"This man haunts me every time something has happened with him I can see his face. It is still a big part of my life.

"As a police officer you can't show any emotions but it has all come back to me now.

Miss Freeman, now a Cannock Chase district councillor and living in Park Road, Cannock, said the families would be in her thoughts, adding: "It can never be the end of the chapter for them."

DECEMBER 1, 1964: Nine-year-old Julia Taylor lured into a car in Bloxwich by a man claiming to be a friend of her mother. She was assaulted, strangled and left for dead, but spot-ted by a passing cyclist and saved.

September 8, 1965: Margaret Reynolds, aged six, went missing in Aston, Birmingham.

December 30, 1965: Diane Tift, five, vent missing in Bloxwich.

Margaret Reynolds and Diana Tift are found in a ditch at Mansty Gully on Cannock Chase.

August 14, 1966: Ten-year-old Jane Taylor disappeared from the Cannock

August 19, 1967: Christine Darby, aged seven, was enticed into a grey Austin A55 car by a man near her home in Camden Street, Walsall. Witvent missing in Bloxwich.

January 12, 1966: The bodies of grey car who spoke in a local accent.

August 22, 1967: A soldier who was a member of a search party found the body of Christine Darby just a mile from where Reynolds and Tift were discovered.

November 4, 1968: 10-year-old Margaret Aulton in Walsall escaped from a man who attempted to force her into his green and white Ford Corsair. A housewife made a mental note of the vehicle number, the car was traced back to Morris, and he was arrested.

All Dentures

November 16, 1968: Raymond Leslie Morris was taken to Cannock Court and charged with the murder of Chris-tine Darby. He denied the charge.

February 18, 1969: Morris was found guilty at Staffordshire Assizes in Stafford of the murder and rape of Christine Darby and sentenced to life helpid bars.

August 2001:Morris launches an appeal against his murder conviction November 2010: Morris granted a judicial review in the case of the murder of Christine Darby.

February 2011: His bid for an appeal was rejected at London's Royal Courts of Justice.

April 2011: Morris says he has scrapped plans to take his case to the European Court of Human Rights and will die in jail.

July 2013: European Court of Human Rights rules that means whole-lifers should be entitled to a review of their sentence 25 years into their term at the very latest.

February 2014: The Court of Appeal found whole life sentences should continue to be used for the most serious of crimes. It means Morris will die in

March 11, 2014: The Ministry of Justice confirms that Raymond Mor-ris has died after being transferred to a medical facility from Wymott in Preston.

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THEY say one of the surest signs of getting older is when the policemen start looking younger.

But what about when the police start looking smaller. Or made out of vinyl?

Over the last few months they

seem to have been spreading like wildfire. PCSOs, community beat bobbies, it seems no shop is complete now without a self-adhesive law enforcer in the We've all heard the unkind

comments about 'plastic police-men', but really is taking it too far.

THE other week, while using a self-scanning till at a local branch of Tesco, a member of staff was required to verify that I

was over the age of 18 while pur-chasing a six-pack of beer.

And what, you might ask, is wrong with that? Well the beer in question was alcohol-free. Why, even the old Top Deck shandy even the old Top Deck shandy cans used to have a trace of alcohol in them, and I don't recall children being stopped from buying them. Even stranger is the warning on Beck's Blue, another low alcohol brew. "Please drink responsibly" it says on the label, which gives the alcohol content as being 0.05 per cent. And quite right too. Do not even consider getting driving a car after 200 bottles.

NOEL Edmonds, unveiling his proposal to privatise the BBC, proposal to privatise the BBC, says he no longer buys a tele-vision licence because there is nothing on the normal terrestrial services he wants to watch. "I don't watch except on catch-up," he says. And quite right too. So how does he feel about all those years he was forcing Mr Blobby and Telly Addicts on us?

FIREFIGHTERS were this week called to deal with a fire at a suspected cannabis factory in Tettenhall, emitting huge plumes of smoke into the atmosphere A man was arrested, but neighbours are said to be relaxed about the matter. Very relaxed indeed.

JUST when you think you have heard everything, Aaron Parfitt, 14, has been suspended from his school in Blackpool for organising a walk-out because he felt he was not getting enough homework. He complained he was passed from pillar to post when he tried to raise concerns about the quality of his teaching with Blackpool Council and Ofwith Blackpool Council and Of-sted. He managed to persuade 100 of his peers to join him on his protest. I know teenagers will do anything for a day off school, but demanding more home-work? The news comes a week after fellow Blackpool resident Gemma Worrall hit the headlines because she thought 'barraco barner' was Britain's head of state. They must have some re-ally good schools up there.



Anglo Saxon expert Chris Fern with a folded great cross
Curator David Symons looks at a discovered item





Experts examine the full display of the hoard

Haul together to clear up mystery

A fascinating discovery of ancient treasure has taken on another new twist, as Dave Ballinger reports

SOME of the mysteries of the Staffordshire Hoard - unearthed in a farmer's field in Hammerwich - have taken a new twist.

The incredible find, the biggest of its kind, has begun to rewrite the

The entire, fully cleaned hoard has been photographed in one place for the first time since its discovery in 2009.

first time since its discovery in 2009.

For two weeks the entire 4,000 piece collection has been brought together so experts could start a major exercise to group items and make links between each fragment like an ancient jigsaw

puzzle.

The staggering findings shine fresh light into the depths of what are known as the Dark Ages.

Hundreds of connections have been found, revealing at least one helmet made up of more than 1,500 fragments.

Warrior

The research has also confirmed there are up to 150 swords, which represents an extraordinary haul of warrior kit.

It has also revealed for the first time

It has also revealed for the first time the true extent of gold wealth across the kingdoms – much greater than ever en-visaged before. Anglo-Saxon specialist Chris Fern has spent 18 months examining each item in the collection individually. But to complete his analysis it became clear all the piete ins analysis it became clear an the items would have to be brought together. So they were all packed up and in total secrecy experts carried out the work over two weeks in the depths of Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. Mr Fern said: "The hoard is a very



Conservation manager Pieta Greaves examines some of the artefacts

complex find which points to multiple origins and is very significant for understanding the true material culture of the early kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon

of the early kingdoms of Angio-Saxon England.

"It suggests that the warrior elites shared in the sort of gold wealth en-joyed by kings and royalty."

Mr Fern said items in the hoard were

shown to have origins from three king-doms: Mercia, East Anglia and North-

made up of 11lbs (5kg) of gold, 3lbs (1.3kg) of silver, plus garnet and Roman glass. It has a value in excess of £3 mil-

Now the three-year conservation and clean-up is complete, the full extent of decoration, quality, iconography and workmanship has been appreciated.

Among the collection are more than

Among the collection are more than 80 pommel caps – the decorative tip of the sword – where previously only 20 had been discovered in England. David Symons, curator at Birming-ham Museum, said: "We had no idea of

the level of wealth. It now appears it was beyond kings and top royalty. More people are sharing in this. It also includes the top generals and high officials. "It has also helped us understand the technology and techniques used. The hoard makes up something like 60 per cent of all Anglo-Saxon filigree discovered. This is unique. It is mind-bogging."

It is already believed some of the gar-net discovered could have come from India and Sri Lanka.

There is also a gold pectoral cross with a central garnet gem that would have been worn by senior clergy as a sign of their office or by wealthy Christian lay

people.

And there is the stylised seahorse mount with filigree spirals the size of a grain of rice which now experts believe may actually be just a horse.

Thumb

Pieta Greaves, hoard conservation manager, said: "Overall I like the pieces where you can see the human element, such as the wear on the pommel caps where you would have put your thumb." The hoard was discovered by detectorist Terry Herbert in farmer Fred Johnson's field on July 5 2009.

It made them millionaires overnight when Birmingham Museums Trust and The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke-on-Trent acquired it in 2010 with support from the Arts Fund, the

with support from the Arts Fund, the National Heritage Memorial Fund and

National Heritage Memorial Fund and the UK's largest public donation. In 2012 a further 81 items were found in the same field. Dating of the hoard places it at the time of the huge tribal Kingdom of Mercia.

Since the discovery the treasures have toured the region and more than a million people have visited.

Mr Symons said: "It has been an incredible strength of the project that it has been out on show. We are still part way through the story and have a lot of thinking to do."

THROUGH

FIFTY patients, many attached to life support machines, were evacuated from Wolverhampton's Royal Hospital as a blazing roof threatened to engulf the entire top floor.

A HIGH Court judge ordered the miners' union to call off fly-ing pickets from travelling to pits which continued to operate during the strike. Mr Justice Nolar granted the National Coal Board an injunction under the contro-versial Employment Act

GERRY Adams, the Sinn Fein MP for West Belfast, was gunned down in his car during a lunch break from a court case he was involved in. He was taken to Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast after being shot in the city.

1994

CHART toppers Chaka Demus and Pliers appeared in Wolver-hampton for the first time, but nampton for the first time, but didn't get quite the reaction they had been hoping for. Angry fans threatened to walk out as they became tired of waiting for the band. The concert started at 7.30pm, but the group did not take to the stage until 10pm.

KIDNEY patients from Wolver-hampton were flying to India for transplants because of a shortransplants because of a siont-age of organs in Britain. Five people from the town had paid around £2,500 for the operations in Bombay clinics. The donors, from India's poorer classes, were risking their lives for as little as £200, it was claimed.

2004
A FRUIT and veg seller who fought a three-year battle for the right to sell in pounds and ounces died from a suspected heart attack at the age of 39. Steven Thoburn, from Sunderland, had been prosecuted for breach been prosecuted for breachbeen prosecuted for breath-ing the Weights and Measures Act by selling bananas by the pound. His Imperial scales were confiscated and he was given a six-month conditional discharge in 2001.

BUS lay-bys were being removed from a busy main road, sparking concerns the move would lead to an increase in congestion. The lay-bys were being blocked up as part of a £1.7m Red Route scheme along Stafford Road in Wolverhampton. Transport chiefs claimed that it would be safer for buses to stop on the main carriageway rather than pulling into lay-bys.

ASTON Villa ruthlessly des-ASTON VIIIa ruthlessly des-patched their Premiership neighbours Wolves with a 4-0 win in the big West Midlands derby. Thomas Hitzlsperger opened the scoring after just seven minutes, There was a brief chance for Wolves to get back into the game on the stroke of half-time but Thomas Sorensen saved a penalty from Vio Ganea

ADVERTISEMENT

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes - not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of

their services. Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!



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Boards' break-up caused skills gap No poppies

tents of a letter to the editor written some four to five years ago.

The present Government is endeavour-ing to 'reinvent the wheel' - when Margaret Thatcher's Government took charge there existed around 70-80 training boards re-sponsible for ensuring adequate skills train-ing for a great variety of industries.

I was for 30 years involved with industrial

WHOSE fault is the current skills gap? training firstly with Joseph Sankey & Sons Having read two separate reports by Simon Ltd and later as a lecturer at Dudley Tech-Penfold, indicating National Apprentice-nical College. These boards were funded by ship Week, I am provoked to repeat the contents of a letter to the editor written some faults for a letter to the editor written some size and did a really good job in maintaining bitch child between age.

size and did a really good job in maintaining high skills levels.

During the reign of the Thatcher Government and her then Industry Minister Jim Prior these boards were mostly discontinued. Myself and many others expressed concern at this decision but to no avail and the 30 year skills gap is the result.

J GAGE, C.ENG, MIET, Willenhall

Praise for dog stance by council

WELL done to Birmingham City Council for implement-City Council for implement-ing local by-laws to control the handling of dogs in pub-lic and open spaces.

Do not misunderstand me, the measures that BC

Do not misunderstand me, the measures that BC Council have taken are not an answer to the dog problem, but does go some way to control them. The downside is, I fail to see how one dog walker can control up to four dogs, loose in an open space. The upside is all dogs must be on a lead in a public space, policing it is a different matter.

In a letter to the leader of Walsall Council, I suggested all dogs in public places be muzzled, they cannot bite. The local council can pass by-laws to this effect. My reply stated that they thought there was no reason to implement such actions, even though there have been dog attacks in the past

been dog attacks in the past 12 months.

12 months.
At least BC Council know
there is a problem and doing
something about it. I still
think a muzzle for dogs out
in public places, is the only

way to stop dog attacks.

A PARKER, Willenhall

to the Editor

POST

Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL Walsall.chron @expressandstar.co.uk

Why should England put up with the EU?

Kingdom against the in-troduction of EU regional policies proposed in the Maastricht Treaty (subse-quently signed by her suc-cessor), the signal was given to the EU that the United Kingdom was going to be a willing partner in sharing and relinquishing power to them, and accepted the pos-sibility it could lead to the destabilisation of the nation state.

state.
Britain in Margaret
Thatcher lost its last true

Thatcher lost its last true British patriot. Successive British gov-ernments and parliaments in their rush for Europe have corrupted the British identity with these regional policies, so much so that you

WHEN Margaret Thatcher could actually say they have was ousted by Europhiles encouraged it to the extent for defending the United that Scotland and Wales now appear to want no more part of it.

part of it.

Given the power to look after their own domestic affairs with national parliaments and doing so successively is it very surprising that they keep coming back for more power, and one of them, Scotland, now wants

them, Scotland, now wants the option in a referendum to breakaway and decide its own future. England has been kept in the dark since 1998 from the reality of adopting these EU regional policies and it is only now when the end of the United Kingdom could be in sight that the English are beginning to wake up. are beginning to wake up.

J STANHOPE,

Willenhall

at cenotaph

WHERE have all the Poppies gone? Two weeks ago while in town I noticed while in town I noticed that there were no wreaths, crosses, poppies and other tributes on the cenotaph that were laid on Remem-brance Sunday. Why have they been re-moved so soon? What hap-pened to them? Had they

gone passed their best? At Bloxwich and Aldridge are just two of many in the area that are still proudly on display. Also there were many pigeons because someone had emptied a whole packet of breakfast cereals on the monument along with the previous day's supply of bread. This appears to be a daily occurrence.

daily occurrence.

I myself see it as being disrespectful to the many in whose honour the memorial was erected. At some stage this garbage must be cleaned off so why allow it to keep hannening?

keep happening? G Morris, Blakenall

Badge cost sparks fury

I AM writing this letter as I have read in your paper about the disabled badge going up to £10. I think this is totally out of order and Mr Bird needs to come in the real world.

I don't mind £5. I need my pass as I have severe heart failure, this is the only thing I get free in a way it's not free I get nothing else as I can go to the toilet myself (silly me).

(silly me). Most people can't afford to eat and keep warm. So come on Mr Bird and think who you are penalising, old people and children again.

M SHIELDS

Darlaston

HEAD OFFICE

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Work begins to make way for new complex



How the new retail units will look. An exhibition will be held next Friday and Saturday at the old Going Places unit

DEMOLITION work has started to pave the way for the multi-million pound transformation of a main shopping centre.

It is the first phase of the revamp of the Old Square site in Walsall which will see a new Primark and Co-op open next year.

The demolition phase is due to take four months as part of the £21 million plans, which has seen construction and infrastructure firm Morgan Sindell appointed to deliver the town centre and this invest-

ment shows we're looking for a long-term revival of the town.

Ben Reid, chief executive of The Co-op, said: "The Midcounties Co-op-erative has strong roots in Walsall that date back over 125 years. We have identified a real demand for a food store offering in the town centre, which is why we are investing in a new store at the Old Square Shopping Cen-tre re-development.

soure at the Un Square Shopping Centre re-development.

"We are looking forward to launching a store that meets the needs of the Walsall community next year."

The project is due to complete in spring 2015.



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Chase Road, Brownhills

Eve Sheldon, aged 10, and Isher Soorae,11 after the choir won the U11 title at the Dudley Music Festival

A GROUP of schoolchildren have been in fine voice after

A GROUP of schoolchildren have been in fine voice after taking part in a regional choir competition. More than 50 young people from Mayfield Preparatory School in Walsall took part in the event this month.

It was held at the Dudley Music Festival and the senior choir which consisted of under 11 year-olds claimed first prize. The boys and grifs performed The Highwayman song and also the Lady Dressed in White and received a trophy and certificates. and certificates

The junior choir sang a Disney medley and the group of under eights came second in their section.

The children from the school in Sutton Road, near Walsall town centre, had been rehearsing up to twice a week ahead of the competition.

Director of music Natalie Petch said: "I was overwhelmed

by how they did on the day.

Probe is due over college cutting ties

ing and apprenticeships could become independent from council control.

The authority is spending £100,000, following a grant, on a study to be carried out by experts, to see whether the plans are feasible. Walsall Adult Community College, could run itself in future under the

proposals. proposals.

Bosses say the college receives much of its funding from external agencies and does not need to be controlled by the council.

Walsall Council has been chosen as one of 10 learned.

chosen as one of 10 local authorities to receive funds through the Government's 'Delivering Differently Challenge' programme.

Funding

Finance chief Councillor Chris Towe, who is the col-lege's chairman of gover-nors, said: "David Cameron nors, said: "David Cameron believed councils should only do what they have to, and anyone with a service like this looking to run it away from council control, should be encouraged. "It is an organisation which doesn't have to be run by the council. "Funding goes through the council but could go straight to the college."

by Adam Burling

He said the education and skills funding agencies had indicated the college's grants would not change as part of the move.

Councillor Towe added:
"The potential spinout
of the college from under
council control has been
something we've considered
for a while.

for a while.

"This will now help us determine whether an independently run organisation is what's best for the college."

Jev Bhalla, interim principal for the College, added: "We're really pleased that the funds have been secured.

cured.

"Our aim is to ensure that the services we provide benefit a greater number of people and employers of Walsall when we consider our options."



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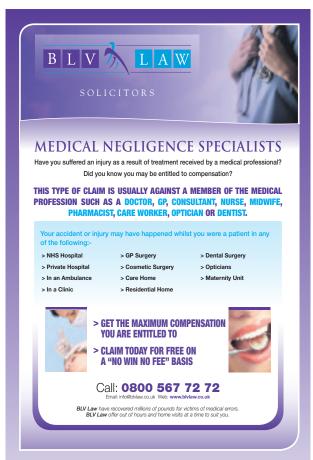
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A 1990 performance of The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas



The Night Maxi Tortellini Hit Big Lola Latrobes, in 1992

Group to see future in Eurovision for milestone silver anniversary

ships and been served by dif-ferent generations of the same families - and a musical theatre group is now celebrating its silver anniversary.
The Great Barr Musical Theatre

Company has reached a milestone 25 years with its performances still a pop-

years with its performances still a popular draw for audiences.

And to mark the occasion members will put on a show for a run of four nights – a first for the group. The company's first performance, in 1989, was a production of The Wiz, telling the classic story and musical The Wizard of Oz.

And since then members have gone on.

And since then members have gone on And since then members have gone on to bring a wide range of well-known musicals to the stage – including the Little Shop of Horrors, Guys and Dolls, the Wedding Singer and Boogie Nights.

Members have also performed Return to the Forbidden Planet, Little Me and Real-

by Adam Grinsell

ity the Musical. The group presently has 25

ity the Musical. The group presently has 25 members but are always only open to new people who want to join and take part in performances.

It also has its own band which performs the music during shows.

To celebrate the anniversary, the group will be putting on the special performance of musical Eurobeat in July.

The show, described as a 'mickey take' of the Eurovision Song Contest, will see a number of performances from 'contest-ants'. During the show, the audience is encouraged to get involved by voting for their favourites. It will be staged at the Old Rep Theatre, in Birmingham, from July 1 to 4.

Members of the group said they were very proud to reach the landmark anniversary but admitted it had not always been easy due to production costs and getting new

members on board. Office manager Anne Hewitt, 59 and from Duxford Road, Great Barr, has been a member since the group was founded by friends who convinced her

to join.

Both of her daughters have been members of the group in the past, and her husband Gary joined up in 1997. She said:

"Being a part of this company gives you great confidence and it's a great sense of being part of something," she said.

Memorable

"I've met some amazing people that have got amazing talent they didn't realise they had. I've had a lot of ups and downs in my life and it's helped me to get over them,"

Anne has performed in all of the group's Anne has pertormed in all of the group's shows and is one of only three original members taking an active role in the company, alongside Albert Lyons and Margaret Pitt – although they have taken breaks from the group. Group secretary Maureen Bowyer said there had been memorable mo

ments for the group over the years – including the time one member fell into the band pit before a performance. But after emerg-

ing unscathed the performer, Shirley Lane, went ahead with her performance. Maureen said: "It really was a case of the show must go on. It was just before a production of Chicago. After she fell the

production of Chicago. After she fell the whole place went totally silent for around 30 seconds until she popped her head out and shouted 'Tm okay'."

Rehearsals for the show are now well under way with the group meeting once a week at the Co-op Rooms, in Walsall Road, Great Barr on Tuesday evenings. And members have also been out and about searching for materials to make the costumes for the new show.

new show.

The group says, just like the real Eurovision, there will be a wide range of styles including traditional dress, some 70s Glam rock influenced outfits and some which are a little more bizarre. For ticket or membership inquiries, see www.greatbartrmusicaltheatrecompany.co.uk

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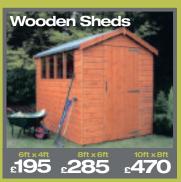
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Inspirational Gaurav now 54 back home with family

HE HAS spent the past three months in isolation recovering from a life-saving bone

marrow transplant.
But now brave two-year-old
Gaurav Bains is back home in the
loving arms of his family – after becoming an inspiration to thousands.

sands.

Gaurav underwent the operation just before Christmas and has spent the weeks since locked away in his hospital room to give his immune system time to rebuild.

time to rebuild.

His family are over the moon that he is now back home in Tipton.

Parents Sunny and Gurprit took it in turns to stay at their son's bedside throughout his stay at Birmingham Children's Hospital. Mr Bains, aged 31, said: "It's brilliant, he's back at home where he belongs."

Leukaemia

Gauray, from Alexandra Road, has left hospital almost 12 weeks after he was admitted, and 71 days after his stem cell transplant. Had he not received the transplant, to treat an extremely rare condition called Monosomy 7 Syndrome, then it is likely he would have developed an aggressive form of childhood leukaemia.

It is the plight of Gauray, and other children who also suffer from rare con-ditions, such as baby Margot Martini, that have highlighted the drastic need for bone marrow donors. Their stories have inspired thousands to support the campaign.

There are several registers in the UK, such as Anthony Nolan Trust and Delete Blood Cancer, which list all of those who could be potential matches for those in need.

But when some are struck down



Gaurav with father Sunny, mother Gurprit and his sister Kiran

lists have proved to be desperately short. Like Gaurav, whose family short. Like Gauray, wnose running fought to find a donor match by organising registration events nationwide, 17-month-old Margot's hopes of finding a donor were pinned on getting more people to provide their DNA. Margot, whose mother is originally

with such serious conditions, those from Essington, was 14 months old when she was diagnosed with a rare form of blood cancer.

Following registration events in her name, it is estimated that around 50,000 people signed ups. At the end of last month, she too underwent a trans plant. Her parents are facing an anxious wait to see if it has been a success

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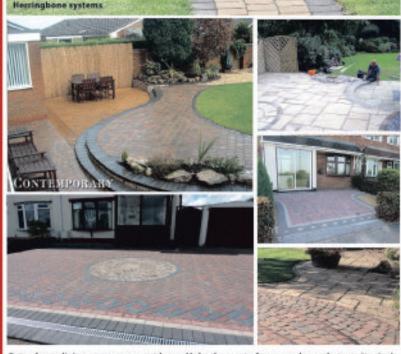


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JOSEPH LECKIE Unchained melody of ACADEMY love for diamond pair



Diamond couple David and Lilian Moran, from Rushall

The couple on their wedding day in 1954

was a romance which started when they clapped eyes on each other at work and it has lasted more than 60 years as they celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary.

David and Lilian Moran were orking at Wheway chainmakers, Walsall, when he took the first step and asked his wife-to-be to

the pictures.

The first date for the welders was

at the Savoy cinema in the town. Love blossomed and they married at St Pe-ter's RC Church in Bloxwich on March 6, 1954. Despite the cold they managed to avoid the heavy snow which hit the

area over the previous days.

After leaving Wheway's, David, now aged 80, went on to work at car firm BRD where he spent more than 30

years.
Lilian, 82, moved on to become a saddle machinist at Butler & Antill and then cleaning within the NHS where she was based at the likes of Walsall Manor Hospital, Goscote, Little Bloxwich and Birchills. The cou-

some patients are suction dentures.

unsuitable for the procedure.

Is suction the new solution?

Stabilisation problems with denture wearers are common, especially

with bottom teeth. They can become progressively uncomfortable as

gums shrink with age, creating sore spots and compromising diet.

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These prosthetics use tiny, valve-operated diaphragms inserted

"We recognise this particular prosthesis can offer another useful tool in our palette of options, but clinical technology is advancing all the time and the equipment we have at the Denture Clinic can deliver a precise fit for quality, traditional dentures and sometimes that's all

into the dentures and create a stabilising vacuum against the gums. The technology offers another choice for patients, who perhaps don't require denture stabilisation through implants, or are

a break.
David has always had an interest in gardening while Lilian is keen on knitting and dress-making.
When asked about the key to such a long and successful marriage, Lilian said: "It is about tolerance, patience, a good sense of humour and honesty, and not arguing about money. He says he still loves me and I still love him."

ple, from Rushall, have two children, David, aged 53, and Julie 51 Theor

David, aged 53, and Julie ,51. They have three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

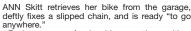
To make the anniversary they en-

joyed a family meal and are planning

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A recent Radio 4 broadcast explored the view of 'Your whole life is lived through your teeth'. The concept for many is true - though few comprehend how teeth impact our day-today lives, and in particular, the issues that arise when they begin to fail. In its conclusion, the broadcast acknowledged the sometime catastrophic effects of tooth trouble on diet, lifestyle and self-worth. The effervescent Ann Skitt recently decided to ditch her old, troublesome





By her own confession it's an antique with a capacious, black leather-cloth saddlebag (no longer manufactured) and just three Sturmey-Archer gears. For nearly 20 years it's been a faithful companion and her primary source of

Her enthusiasm to get on the saddle belies her years. "I don't drive, but cycle everywhere I can,

A young-at-heart 74-year-old, she oozes charisma and charm, still goes to the gym "when she needs to shed a few pounds" and is the life and soul of the party at her local Young At Heart Club where she is a

"I retired at 60, but I always have to be doing something. The club has some elderly people who never really see anyone from week to week and I love helping. We do lunches and have a game of bingo and a laugh," she adds.

She admits to constantly making choices to live life to the limit and indulging herself whenever she

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"I love meeting the students and they treat me lovely,"

It's hard to imagine that his retired assembly worker. who completed 45 years' service at Willenhall's famous Josiah Parkes & Sons lock manufacturers, could ever be knocked back. But failing teeth "became an embarrassment," she recalls.

Plucked up the courage

"My remaining bottom teeth were terribly discoloured and my partial lower denture was unstable. You could never eat anything like nuts and I was always so

conscious of the way they looked.

"If I cooked lamb chops or a steak I'd struggle to eat it – it would take me ages, but I can eat anything now," she says with a smile.

Ann called time on her long-standing dental problems after reading an article in her local newspaper about Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) and his work as principal at the Denture Clinic in North Street, Dudley.

"I had a couple of articles and kept them for nearly a year before I plucked up courage to see Steve. I knew

what's required to make the bite functional and teeth secure."

exactly what I wanted and was happy to put up with a bit of discomfort to get there," she says With four implants in her upper and four in the lower jaw to secure implant-retained over-dentures, Ann now has a perfect smile and functional teeth.

"I love my teeth and they have given me so much more confidence. You don't realise how having bad teeth affect until you have treatment like this and you

get the confidence back. The whole shape of my mouth has changed."

Her teeth were hand-crated on the premises at

the Denture Clinic and implant surgery was carried out by Jonathon Pugh BDS MSc (Implant Dentistry) principal of Total Implant Solutions in Tettenhall Road Wolverhampton.

Steven says: "Ann's particular choice was to go down

the implant-retained denture route which ensures total stabilisation and it works brilliantly for her.

"But implants are not necessarily for everyone and quality, traditional dentures can often be an excellent option. We also do suction dentures, where tiny valve operated diaphragms are fitted into the prosthesis and create a vacuum effect against the gums."

Adds Ann: "Both Steve and Jon were lovely with me. I've told all my friends they need to see them too."

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Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal The Great Daffodil Appeal is Marie Curie's biggest annual fundraising campaign. The

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Every March millions of people across the UK support our biggest fundraising event of the year by simply giving a small donation to purchase and wear a daffodil pin.





Signing up volunteer collectors: December – February The Great Daffodil Appeal: March Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal kicks off across the country on 1st March. Volunteer collectors will be out force throughout the conin force throughout the month of Marc encouraging everyone to give a donat and wear one of the charity's daffodil

All the funds raised by the appeal will help Marie Curie Nurses provide more care for people with terminal illnesses at the time when they need the most

The Great Daffodil Appeal doesn't just raise much-needed funds; it also raises awareness of Marie Curie services and awareness of wane come services and the need for high quality nursing care for people with terminal illnesses. Marie Curie wants people wherever they live to be able to have a 'good death', provided with the care they want and need, with support available for them and their families. Research shows that currently 63% of people want to be cared for and die at home, yet only 44%, including those in care homes, do. This i because not enough or the right type of health and social care is available.

neatm and social care is available.

Marie Curie enables more people to be cared for and die in the place of choice, surrounded by the people and things they love, and campaigns to ensure that those who are terminally ill have faster access to free social care. As people live longer, increasing numbers of people have long-term conditions requiring many complex. increasing humbers of people have only-term conditions requiring more complex support towards the final stages of life. Despite this, end of life care is an under-researched area. Marie Curie invests in high quality research to provide real benefits to people with terminal illnesse their carers and families. Marie Curie is the only charity exclusively funding end of life care research and invests around

• The first Great Daffodil Appeal took

· Marie Curie is best known for its network of over 2,000 Marie Curie Nurses, who provide care to patients across the

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• In 2013 the Great Daffodil Appeal raised

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Neil pays homage to Dexys with new book

superfan Neil Warburton has put the finishing touches to a book chronicling the band's history.
And for the 42-year-old, from

Oldbury, it is a more personal ac count as he is a long-time friend of the band's mercurial frontman Kevin Rowland.

Kevin Rowland.

Mr Warburton first got into the band when he was eight-years-old and the very first record he bought was their 1980 chart-topper Geno.

Rowland lived in the same street as Neil, Apollo Road.

But when he settled down to watch the band perform on Top of the Pops one Thursday evening his mum had a surprise for him.

He said: "We lived in Apollo Road, Oldbury. I remember sitting in front of the TV watching the band and my mum came in and saw Kevin.

Autograph

"She turned around to me and said: 'He only lives up the road'. It is not often you find one of your neighbours

is your favourite rock star."

Mr Warburton, who still lives in Apollo Road, eventually plucked up the courage to knock on his neighbour's door and ask for an autograph. He was invited in and given a signed photo. And the two men remain friends to this day – and met up again

friends to this day – and met up again only last year.

Mr Warburton's book is a compilation of 15 issues of his fanzine Keep On Running, published between 1995 and 2000, along with new interviews from band members past and present including Kevin Archer and Jim Paterson.

He started putting The book, which will be launched at Oldbury's Railway Inn pub on March 22, together while



A close up view of the band's book

A close up view of the band's book out of work. Part of the launch event will be held at the Wetherspoons pub, the Court of Requests in Church Road, between 7pm and 8pm on March 22.

And to mark the occasion Anthony O'Shaughnessy, the cover star of the band's iconic debut album Searching for the Young Soul Rebels, will be travelling from Belfast to attend.

The event will then move on to the Railway Inn, Bromford Road, at 8.30pm where the band's music will be played. Last month it was revealed that a documentary had been made, due to be released in May, following



Oldbury-based author Neil Warburton

the band's every move during a residency at London's Duke Of York's Theatre last year.

Called Nowhere Is Home, it features

the Wednesfield-born Rowland talking about why he turned to singing. He tells the camera: "Do you know what? I was a no-hoper. Prison was a possibility, you know, an absolute possibil-

bility, you know, an absolute possibility for me.

"I left school, no qualifications, at 15. I'd come bottom of the class in several subjects." Last year he was given an honorary degree from the University of Wolverhampton.

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Former parish priest marks 60 years



Father Harrington left, with current parish priest Father Jaison Karippai at St Patrick's church in Walsall

AS part of the continuing celebrations of his 60th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood, Father John Harrington was invited back to St Patrick's RC Church, Walsall, where he was the parish priest until late 2012.

During his 38 years in the parish, Father Harrington was often to be found ministering to the patients at the Manor

Hospital where he was the Roman Catholic chaplain. He also ran a soup kitchen from the Presbytery.

Current parish priest Father Jaison Karippai thanked the Father Harrington for sharing his experiences. He added: "Before this, no priest has celebrated sacerdotally the diamond Jubilee in this Parish."

Man held outside nursery

A MAN has been arrested after he tried to gain access to a Walsall nursery school while parents were dropping off their children.

The man had to be tackled to the ground outside Maple Tree Nursery, Delves Road, and a nursery worker suffered an injured hand and was taken to hospital.

The man was detained under the Mental Health Act by police and taken

to hospital. Neighbours spoke of their shock after the drama which happened at around 9.35am on Monday.

West Bromwich Road resident Carol Gill, aged 56, said: "It is very worrying that something like this could happen at a nursery. It was absolute pandemonium in the street when the emergency services arrived at about 10am."

Parents using the centre's West.

Parents using the centre's West Bromwich Road entrance on Monday afternoon, said they had not been in-formed of any trouble at the site. Kelly

Jones, aged 34, from Delves, said:""My child was very happy when I left him

there."
Chief Inspector Chris Wilkes, from
Walsall Police, said: "The arrested
man was detained by staff at the nursery, who acted swiftly, to prevent this
man from gaining access to the site.
"One of the staff suffered a hand injury as he tried to ston the man but

jury as he tried to stop the man, but thankfully no one else was injured and the children are all safe. Bosses at the nursery refused to comment.

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School is fit for a healthy purpose



Health and wellbeing co-ordinator, Colin Hall with Lisa Sylvester and Alan Jarvis from NHS, Walsall Hospital Trust

A SCHOOL in Walsall is celebrating after being the first in a borough to get an NHS award. Shire Oak Academy has been awarded the Gold Healthy Workplace award.

been awarded the Gold Freathly Wolfsplace award.

The school has been promoting healthy lifestyle choices among its staff by encouraging them to eat healthier and do exercise. All staff have attended sessions on stress management and over the course of the last year, most staff have had a health check from the NHS to ensure that they are fit and healthy.

Fitness is also a key part of the programme and most nights of the week staff participate in a range of activities including high intensity interval training and spinning. The aim of the award is to reward local businesses and institutions for participating in activities that promote healthy lifestyle choices to your workforce.

Colin Hall, PE teachers health co-ordinator, said: Coin Hail, F.E. teachers neatth co-ordinator, said: "To receive this prestigious award is a credit to all staff at the academy. We are the first school in Walsall to receive the award so we are delighted about that. In one way or another, all staff have helped contribute. As teachers, we need to ensure that we lead a healthy lifestyle and inspire our

Poundland is floated as shares start at £3

SHARES in Poundland have gone on sale for the first time as the booming Black Country firm was valued at £750 million.

The shares were initially valued at £3 each - but it was thought they were likely to rocket in value over the days following the launch last Thursday. Floatthe days following the launch last Inursday. Floating on the stock market will raise between £375m and £430m.

The move will help the Willenhall-based chain expand in the UK and in Eugand in Eugand

pand in the UK and in Eu-rope. The company started trading in a £30-a-week of-fice in Sedgley 24 years ago. Founder Steve Smith and his father sold the business for around £50 million in 2002, and since then it has expanded to more than 500 stores and sales of £880m.

stores and sales of £880m. It employs 12,000 people, around 750 of them at its headquarters in Willenhall and distribution depot at Bilston, It has built its success on offering everything for £1, from toys and sweets to household staples like milk and sugar and even books and DVDs.

The result has been one of

The result has been one of the biggest high street suc-cess stories of recent times, piling on the profits and

sales figures year after year in both good times and bad. The next move is to open stores on the Continent, starting in Spain, using the Dealz brand it first launched in Ireland. To fund the growth Poundland is selling 250 million shares in the business – about half

its value.

Around 125 million went on sale last week in so-called conditional trading.

Dealing in the shares over the next few days is likely to involve big inves-tors like pension funds and insurance companies. Ordi-nary investors were able to get their hands on a bit of Poundland at the start of this week, when full public trading started on Monday.

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Carslo White High Gloss 3 door sideboard	£549	£197	
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Stone International table, 4 chairs and 1 bench			
Habufa Chester solid oak table and 6 chairs			
G-Plan Dining	ALL STOCK RED	UCED BY 60%	
Willis & Gambier Villa Cortina sideboard	£1999	£826	
FLOORING	WAS	NOW	
Carpets	FROM £	12.99m²	
Heavy Duty carpets with 10 year warranty	£39m²	£16m²	
Rugs - assorted designs, sizes and colours - to clear	FR	OM £25	
Pergo domestic extra laminate – classic plank	£24.95m²	£14.95m	
HOMEWARES	WAS	NOW	
Kirsty Allsopp bedlinens - all remaining stock	SA	VE 65%	
Arthur Price Papaya 30 piece cutlery box set	£79	£38	
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Revamp projects for team

YOUNG unemployed people taking part in a programme aimed at improving confi-dence and helping them into work have been taking part in community projects.

in community projects.

A group of 11 people aged between 16 and 25 have been taking part in a12-week Prince's Trust programme running in Walsall.

They have raised funds by carrying out bag packs at supermarkets, a sponsored night walk and sleep out in a cave, The group used the money raised to help them carry out work on a communal garden at Brownhills Community Association.

They also cleared a gar-

They also cleared a garden area at Blakenall Village Centre to help towards Walsall In Bloom.

Pc Mark Foster, Prince's Pc Mark Foster, Prince's Trust team leader, said:
"This team of inspiring, young local people have worked hard together to raise funds, creating fresh partnerships by physically working with others to im-prove facilities thus making a difference to their com-munity. They can be very proud of their actions."

Anyone interested in

Anyone interested in being part of a Princes Trust team in the future can call 07535 134881.

It also gives young people chance to work on their CVs and interview techniques.

Ex-town cinema site pub plan gets the green light

ema into a high street pub, creating up to 50 jobs, have been given the green light despite

concerns over noise and trouble.

The £1.5 million plan to open a JD Wetherspoon in place of the old Electric Palace in Bloxwich was recommended for approval by planning officers before

last Thursday's meeting.
The High Street building has been derelict for more than two years following its most recent use as a youth club.

The pub chain pulled out The pub chain pulled out of previous proposals to take over the nearby Bulls Head and submitted new proposals for the Electric Palace site, which was also once a nightclub, creating a mixture of full and part-time positions. positions.

The scheme includes a pub and restaurant and beer garden. It would open from 7am to 12.30am Sundays to Wednesday and until 1.30am Thursday to

Saturday.

Five objections we lodged against the plans.

lodged against the plans.
These include concerns
over no dedicated parking
which could increase problems along Church Street,
the number of pubs in the
area and impact on other
food outlets. But in his report to councillors, head of
planning David Elsworthy,
said the proposed use for a
public house and restaurant

by Craig Hughes

is acceptable and would bring investment into the

area.

He said: "The proposed use is appropriate within a district centre and would bring a vacant, neglected, prominent building in the conservation area back into use. The proposals would retain, refurbish and reinstate the briging least for retain, refurbish and reinstate the original front fa-cade of the building facing High Street and generally improve the overall ap-pearance of this prominent building. "Objectors consider that there will be potential for increased noise and distur-bance."

In most recent times In most recent times Electric Palace was a youth centre but young people and community groups moved to alternative sites in 2011. The application states the

lack of parking would not present a significant high-way safety or traffic flows issues.



Andrea and Mark Rogers, who have pulled in the punters at the Hazelslade Inn

day hailed

MORE than 70 people attended an information day on living with multiple scle-

on living with multiple sclerosis.

The event, organised by the Black Country Branch of the MS Society, was held with a view to launching a new drop-in service. Held at the Stan Ball Centre, in Bloxwich, guests included the Mayor of Walsall, Councillor Mohammad Nazir, and MS nurse specialist Julie Bent, of Walsall Community Health.

Branch secretary Andy Smith said: "We want to create a similar service in Walsall because we cover a big area. We are the biggest MS branch outside London.

The mayor was so impressed

Building

on quality

of pub ale

A BUILDER from Bloxwich, who is also a pub licen-see, has been awarded the Casque Mark accreditation

for beer quality.

Mark Rogers and his wife

Andrea have transformed the Hazelslade Inn, in Ru-geley Road, since taking over their first pub just 18 months ago.

months ago.

Mark, aged 49, a builder from Bloxwich, said: "I built our own house in Hazel Slade and lived here for five years so the pub was our local. We've had a revamp

local. We've had a revamp and we are getting some of the regulars back as well as some new faces."

The Casque Mark accreditation was awarded following two unannounced visits over eight weeks. Beers were tested for temperature, appearance, aroma and taste.

Built in the 1850, the

Built in the 1850s, the Hazelslade Inn is owned by Punch Taverns and is the ninth pub in the Can-

nock area to reach the Cask Marque standard.

MS branch outside London. The mayor was so impressed with what we were doing he has invited us to a town hall reception."

Taster therapy sessions were also on offer and included yoga, and massage at the event. The next meeting is on April 2 at 1.30pm.

Jobs fair call to employers

BUSINESSES are being reminded about an employ-

reminded about an employ-ment fair.

Walsall Adult & Com-munity College is staging the event at the Forest Arts Centre in Bloxwich on March 27 from 9.30am on March 27 from 9,30am to 12pm. Interim principal Jev Bhalla said: "It will give local employers the opportunity to network and meet potential new employees. Call 01922 663000.

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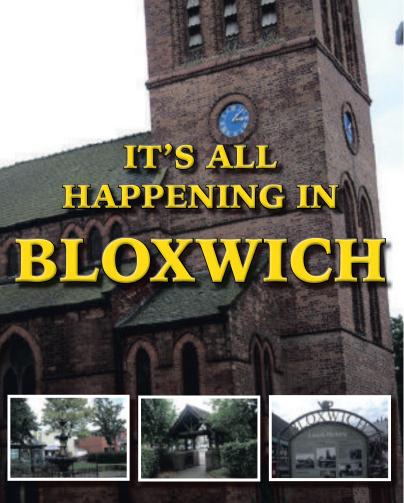
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Philip morphs into a marathon runner



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Phillip Box, who will be running in this year's London Marathon dressed in a morph suit

don Marathon dressed in a morph suit
BLUE is the colour for Philip Box as he runs the London
Marathon. The 28-year-old, of Chasetown, a highways
groundworker, is pounding the 26-miles of the capital in an
all-encompassing morph suit.
A member of Shabba Runners, Bloxwich, Philip said:
"It slows me down a bit because I reckon it halves your
breathing capability and stops you being able to see when
it gets wet – but its fun. It takes the pressure away from the
running and means you can do it for a laugh."
Phillip will compete in the London Marathon for the second time in April. Since taking part for the first time last
year, he has also competed in the Snowdonian Marathon as
well as a 40 mile ultra marathon. He said: "I love running.
It relaxes the mind and gives you time to think."
Despite the problems of wearing a morph suit, he still

Despite the problems of wearing a morph suit, he still hopes to beat the 3hr 28 min time he recorded last year. He will be raising money for Children's Wish, a charity that makes dreams come true for children with life threatening illnesses. To sponsor him text morp61 £1 to 70070.

Flowers to help mark **Great War** centenary

FOUR sites in Walsall will be planted with poppy seeds or plants to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the First World War.

100th anniversary of the First World War.
Schools, businesses, community groups and residents are being urged to get involved in the initiative in Walsall. People can pay £5 for 1sg m of poppy plugs or 250 sg m of seeds, and Walsall Council bosses are looking for volunteers to plant them.

The sites chosen are grass around Barr Beacon war memorial, the Clayhanger traffic island, King George V Park, Bloxwich and Kings Hill Park, Darlaston.
Council chiefs said it would be a good way for people to get involved and help commemorate the centenary of the war.
Leisure chief, councillor Anthony Harris, said: "We want to offer schools, businesses, community groups and individuals the order.

want to offer schools, businesses, community groups and individuals the opportunity to sponsor some of these areas that we intend to plant.

"And as we can cover quite an area with £5 worth of seeds, this is easily within people's budgets.

people's budgets. "We think it's a nice idea

and something that people would want to be part of,

to 2018 it this trial proves successful.

Councillor Harris also made a plea for volunteers to come forward and help

to come forward and help with the planting effort. Anyone interested in sponsoring the poppy plant-ing or volunteering should contact Clean and Green Services at Cleanand-Green@walsall.co.uk, or call 01922 653344.

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Cheslyn Hay Sports and Community High School provides a rich, high quality education within a secure and caring environment that allows post - 16 students to develop their potential. The excellent 'respect and care' ethos found in the whole school is mirrored within the Sixth Form.

recognised it as 'an inclusive school, which cares for the learning and personal development needs of all students'.



A Sixth Form student on the Level Three Sport course - mixing practical with theory.

Sixth Form students follow a clear induction programme intended to help them build the personal and study skills needed to embark on level three studies. Following this induction all students partake in an extensive well-being programme designed

to develop students both academically and personally as they make their most There are important life decisions. strong links with local universities and apprenticeship providers allowing students access to the best resources. The team of high qualified and dedicated staff support



A Sixth Form student developing skills on canvas.

students as they make their journey beyond school life. 'There is an outstanding relationship between students and their teachers' Ofsted 2011.

Cheslyn Hay Sports and Community High School enjoys the benefits of having



A Sixth Form student working on a 3D project.

an excellent team of staff, a large attractive campus, an impressive range of specialist facilities and easy access to road and public transport links.

The school is inviting students looking for a place in Sixth Form from September to make contact and come and take a look at what's on offer. We are inviting you to experience first-hand our special ethos and atmosphere.



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Deal signed to buy 600 new buses

NATIONAL Express West Midlands, the region's biggest bus operator, announced today (Thursday) the signing of a £100m deal for 600 British-built buses.

other West Midlands companies to buy Brit-ish. The vehicles will be equipped with the latest customer comfort technology, envi-The agreement with Alexander Dennis will support 2,000 British jobs. The news was welcomed by Black Country MPs Ian Austin and Tom Watson who have called on what British companies should be doing. as well as high definition CCTV. Mr Watson said: "Deals like the one announced today by National Express West Midlands are

£350,000 plan to cut accident stretch danger

MORE than £350,000 could be spent improving an accident hotspot in Walsall after more than 40 crashes on the route in three years. Walsall Council is looking at securing funds for safety improvements along the Wednesbury Road, which links the town centre and Pleck.

It comes after a man was killed on the route when his car hit metal fencing and went down an embankment last summer. Residents living close to the road said there had been a series of crashes in the area, and called for measures to be introduced.

Changes being considered include improving a junction on the road, as well as markings and pedestrian refuges.

The council has drawn up

provisional plans, although any improvements would be

any improvements would be subject to officials finding the necessary cash. Pleck councillor Dennis Anson welcomed action. He said: "Anything to make the road safer I would support. A lot of traffic is coming off junction nine of the M6 into the town that way. "It is, a main route and

"It is a main route and it will be a far busier route when Phoenix 10 is done. It is used a lot, there are a lot of children that cross up there and safety precautions are vital.

are vital."

The work would be split into two project sfor on different sections of the road.

One worth up to £236,000 would see new surfacing, road markings, improvement of the intervent of the intervent of the intervent. ments to the junction at Bradford Place and a speed

Bradford Place and a speed warning sign.

There have been 32 acci-dents on a stretch heading out of the town centre be-tween November 2010 and the end of October 2013.

Another scheme worth

the end of October 2013.

Another scheme worth
up to £120,000 is for pedestrian refuges and road
markings on the stretch
between Hillary Street and
Tasker Street, where there
have been 14 accidents in
the same period.

Students' maths skills adding up

STUDENTS from a school in Darlaston picked up a gold award and six bronze in an intermediate maths challenge.

Pupils of Grace Academy

took part in the challenge run by the UK Mathematics

Trust.

More than 200,000 students from across the coun-

then the strong across the country were involved.

And Year 10 student Drew Harris joined the top six per cent of pupils who achieved a gold award in the competition.

Hoping

Hoping

She said: "I felt happy and really proud, especially as I was the only student to get a gold award from Grace Academy.

"The most challenging part was the last five questions as they really tested my maths skills.

"Next year I am hoping to improve my score and doeven better."

Nikki Lord, math teacher at the academy, said: "I am really proud of them. Entering students in a national competition and a national competition and having them come out as some of the best across the



Drew Harris - proud of

whole of the UK, not just lo-cally, is really great.

"For Drew, this shows just how intelligent she is and how much potential she has got.

"Problem solving is a dif-ficult skill in maths because

ficult skill in maths because you have to have a concep-tual understanding of the maths behind the problem."

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An ideal environment to develop a range of skills

STAFF and pupils feel happy and safe in the St Francis of Assisi community, where teachers and learners have a close working relationship. This creates strong support for students to achieve their ambitions and aspirations.

Students of the sixth form, based in Aldridge, are encouraged to be independent, creative and confident young

They are taught from the start to be hard working and dedicated, with a scholarly attitude towards school and the wider world

It is incredibly easy to become overwhelmed with school work when you make the decision to continue with further educa-

Potential

However, at SFA, the teaching faculty is dedicated to ensuring students achieve their full academic potential. Staff ensure students have a strong support system to assist in overcoming difficulties they may face during their time there.

A spokesman said: "We believe it is vital to

demonstrate proactive behaviour and work hard in order to be the best that we can be, therefore at St Francis we carry out our mot-'Nil satis nisi optimum' – Only the best is good enough.

Sixth form students play a vital role in the school community and are involved in most events held during and after school, where they engage with the younger students, par-



St Francis' head boy and girl, and their deputies



Former students celebrating Aspirations Day at the college

Students are expected to be role models inside and outside of school, and evidence of this can witnessed in the dedication the head boy, head girl, senior prefects and subject ambassadors show.

The Catholic ethos is the heart of the

school and morals and beliefs shape the community. This creates an environment where everybody is seen as an individual and is important

SFA has pupils from as far afield as Lichfield and Tamworth as well as students from Birmingham, Walsall, Sutton and Aldridge

itself. Whatever career path you decide to pursue, the school will provide the support and guidance in order to ensure you have

the best chance of achieving your goals. Students are also provided with a wide range of opportunities to help develop a perspective of the world around them. For example, they take part in the annual pil-grimage to Lourdes.

Further opportunities, such as university visits or outside speakers giving expert talks on their field of work, ensure there is a clear awareness of the future paths students hope

to take post-18. What makes the sixth form excel is the opportunities on offer to consolidate learning and help SFA students stand out when they move on to higher education, training or employment.

St Francis of Assisi is perfect for any stu-

dent who wants a happy, secure and successful place to study.

The school has highly qualified staff to

guide students to success and it firmly be lieves if you show ambition and passion for your subject then you will achieve success



Creativity is an important aspect of learning

Rated Good and Outstanding by Ofsted St Francis of Assisi **Catholic Technology College** postbox@stfrancis.cc www.stfrancis.cc

Do you live in Aldridge, Walsall, Cannock, Lichfield, Brownhills or the surrounding areas?

We are the top performing GM School in Walsall Borough. There is still a limited number of places in our Sixth Form.

Call us to talk through your options and come and take a look at the top quality courses on offer.







Erdington Road, Aldridge WS9 ORN Telephone: 01922 740300

Thursday, March 20, 2014

CHOICE

Tom Jones

The Voice UK BBC1, 6.45pm

As much as we love the BBC's answer to The X Factor, at times you need the stamina of Davina McCall to sit through an entire episode, so get plenty of cushions and snacks for this, the first live round of the singing contest. The brilliant Emma Willis and Marvin Humes introduce the action as the remaining dozen acts fight it out for a place in the semi-final. After three acts in each team have performed, Tom Jones, Will.i.am, Kylie Minogue and Ricky Wilson will straight through to the next

BBC₁

SATURDAY'S TV 22.03.14

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. 12.00 Football Focus. 12.45 Saturday Sportsday, 1.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 1.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.45 Escape to the Country, (R) 2.45 Davina: Beyond Breaking Point. (R) 3.45 Reflex. 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 5.25 Sport Relief: The Best Bits.

- The Best Bits.

 6.45 The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes present the first live round of the singling contest, in which the 12 remaining acts perform for a place in the semi-final.
- The National Lottery Live. Kate Garraway reveals the results of the Lotto and the Thunderball, with music by
- Little Mix.
 The Voice UK Results.
 Emma Willis and Marvin
 Humes present as Kylie
 Minogue, Tom Jones,
 Will. aam and Ricky Wilson
 lose one act each, leaving
 them with just two for next
 week's semi-final.
 Casualty, Ethan's
 conscience is tested when
 on activite 1 ske him to bide

- 9.25 Casualty. Ethan's
 conscience is tested when
 an activist asks him to hide
 his secrets, while Rita and
 Zoe help a desperate
 prisoner repair his
 relationship with his mother.

 10.15 BEC News: Weather.

 10.30 Match of the Day, Gary
 Lineker presents highlights
 of the latest Premier League
 clashes, including Chelsea v
 Arsenal at Stamford Bridge
 and Cardiff City v Liverpool
 at the Cardiff City V Stadium,
 National Lottery Update.

 12.05 The Football League Show.

12.05 The Football League Show.
1.25 Weatherview. 1.30 BBC

BBC2

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.15 Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R)
6.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
7.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
7.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
7.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
8.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
8.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
8.45 Sport Relief's Top Dog. (R)
9.15 Life on Earth. (R) 10.10 The
Nature of Britain. (R) 11.00 Tree
Dibnah's Made in Britain. (R)
11.30 Great British Railway Journeys. (R)
12.00 James Martin: Home
Comforts. (R) 12.00 Mary Berry
Cooks. (R) 1.00 Nigel Siater's
Simple Suppers. 1.05 Gregory
Simple Suppers. 1.05 Gregory
Film: Spellbound. (1945) 3.25
Ingrid Bergman: Talking Pictures.
(R) 4.00 Film: Notorious. (1946)
5.40 Pon't Paniel The Dad's
Army Story. Victoria Wood
celebrates the comedy. (R)
7.30 Dad's Army. Walker is
accused of treason. (R)
8.00 The Perfect Morecambe &

- 8.00 The Perfect Morecambe & Wise. Glenda Jackson dons a ballgown to bring a touch of class to proceedings.
- of class to proceedings.

 8.30 The Plantagenets. Robert Bartlett tells the story of England's longest-ruling royal dynasty, beginning by examining how Henry II forged an empire after ascending the throne in 1154. (R)

 9.30 U.K. Extended edition.

 10.15 Stewart Lee's Comedy very commodity and the explores more themes.
- 10.45 Glasgow: Big Night Out. The city through the eyes of acts who have performed there.
 (R)
- 11.45 Film: Savage Grace. (2007) Fact-based drama, starring Julianne Moore.

1.15 Film: The Secret in Their Eyes. (2009) 3.15 This Is BBC Two

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. 6.10 Dino Dan. (R) 6.25 Matt Hatter 6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. 6.10 Dino Dan. (R) 6.25 Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) 6.45 Canimats. (R) 6.55 Canimals. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R) 7.10 Cm Nom Stories. (R) 7.15 Cm Nom Stories. (R) 7.15 Cm Nom Stories. (R) 7.20 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Scrambled! 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Dinner Date. (R) 10.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.20 ITV News; Weather. 11.30 The Chase. (R) 1.0.27 Cm Control of the Chronic Control of the Chronic C

- 7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. The duo welcome presenter Christine Bleakley, and are assisted in their duties by guest announcers the Muppets. Little Ant and Dec also meet Samuel L Jackson and Scarlett
- 8.25 The Cube. A personal trainer tackles a series of tough challenges, from agility tests to skills trials, aiming to win a jackpot of £250,000. Phillip Schofield hosts.
- Schotield hosts.

 9.25 The Americans. Elizabeth receives a distress signal, and Philip tries to work out what the consequences of their last operation will be for their family.
- 10.20 ITV News: Weather
- 10.35 Film: Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason. (2004) Romantic comedy sequel with Renee Zellweger. 12.35 Jackpot247. 3.00 In Plain Sight. (R) 3.40 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 4
6.00 Close. 6.10 The Hoobs. (R)
6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Trans
World Sport. 8.00 The Morning
Line. 9.00 Everybody Loves
Raymond. (R) 9.25 Frasier. (R)
9.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
10.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
10.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R)
10.45 How! Met Your Mother.
11.15 How! Met Your Mother.
11.45 The Simpsons. (R) 12.40
Undercover Boss USA. (R) 1.40
Channel 4 Racing. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.15 Come Dine with Me. (R)
6.15 Come Dine with Me. Boe
Olaleye hosts the final dinner party in north London. (R)
6.45 Channel 4 News.
7.05 Marvel's Agents of SHLED.
The tense investigators of the SHLED.
The tense investigators of the SHLED.
The tense investigators of the SHLED.
The tense investigators of SHLED.
The tense investigators of SHLED.

 6.45 Channel 4 News.
 7.05 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD.
 The team investigates an attack on students at SHIELD's academy of science and technology, while Coulson and May meet a former agent who reveals startling information about Skye. (R) 7.40 NCIS. A blind man

Skye. (H)

8.00 Hostages. Duncan locks the Sanders family in a room for the day while he and his team head to New York to eliminate the snipers targeting President Kincaid. Starring Toni Collette.

starring Ioni Collette.

9.00 Film: Rush Hour 3. (2007)
An assassination attempt
sets mismatched detectives
Lee and Carter off on a
mission to take on Triad
gangs in Paris. Action
compety sequel starring. comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan and Chris

10.40 Film: Daredevil. (2003) Comic-book adventure. Comic-book adventu starring Ben Affleck.

12.40 Film: Election. (1999) **2.25** The Good Wife. (R) **3.15** Hollyoaks (R) **5.15** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshakel 10.00 The Dog Rescuers (R) 10.30 It Takes a Thief Catch a Thief (R) 11.30 Police Interceptors (R) 12.30 Ice Road Truckers (R) 12.30 Ice Road Truckers (R) 13.30 Film: The Bridge at Remagen. (1969) Second World War adventure, starring George Segal. 3.45 Film: Stone Cold. (2005) Detective drama, starring Tom Selleck. 5.30 Film: Columbo: Old Fashioned Murder. (1976) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. 6.50 Longmire. New series.

Grime drama, starring Peter Falk.

6.50 Longmire. New series.
Crime drama, starring Robert
Taylor as Wyoming sheriff
Walt Longmire. Returning to
duty after the death of his
wife, Walt is drawn into a
murder investigation.

nuis. A billind man unwittingly photographs evidence of a murder, leading Jethro and the team to the corpse of a petty officer who was stabbed with a knife left at the scene. (R)

at the scene. (R)

8.35 NCIS. Gibbs is made acting director while Jenny is attending an oversea attending an oversea attending an oversea attending an oversea of the scene of

Sheffield.

12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 The Drive-By Slayers: Born to Kill? (R)

4.00 Wildlife SOS. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 4.50 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R)

5.10 Hana's Helipline. (R) 5.30 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Hana's Helipline. (R) 5.40 Hana's Helipline. (R) 5.40 Hana's Helipline. (R) 5.40 Hana's Helipline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great TV Mistakes 7.30 Doctor
Who 8.20 Top Gear: Burma Special
9.25 Film: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider - The Cradle of Life (2003) **11.10** Family Guy

BBC Four 7.00 David Attenborough's First Life 8.00 Shipwrecks: Britain's Sunken History 9.00 Inspector De Luca 10.50 The Genius of David Bowie 11.50 Lou Reed Remembered

ITV2
3.25 Britain's Got More Talent:
Singers & Dancers 4.25 Film:
Babe: Pig in the City (1998) 6.15
Film: About a Boy (2002) 8.15
Film: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007)
10.00 Celebrity Juice 10.50 Crazy
Beaches 11.20 Educating Joey
Essex

.50 Agatha Christie's Poirot 4.55 aspector Morse 6.55 Rosemary & Thyme **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** A Touch of Frost

3.15 Film: The Far Country (1954) 5.15 Film: The Battle of Midway (1976) 7.55 Hornblower. Conclusion of the seafaring adventure, starring loan Gruffudd. Last in the series. 10.00 Film: Carlito's Way (1993)

4.00 How I Met Your Mother 5.00 2 Broke Girls 6.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 How I Met Your Mother 8.00 The Tomorrow People 9.00 Film: Lake Placid (1999) 10.40 Rude Tube 11.45 The Big Bang Theory

2.55 Carry On Behind (1975) 4.40 Escape to Victory (1981) 7.00 Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) **9.00** Priest (2011) **10.45** Alien 3 (1992)

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CHOICE



Prince Harry

Harry's South Pole Heroes ITV, 8pm

Prince Harry and his band of heroes are certainly braver than us - in fact watching him and the wounded servicemen and women from the comfort of our armchair with a warm cup of coffee leaves us suitably ashamed of ourselves. In this episode, the Walking with the Wounded South Pole Allied Challenge 2013 gets under way, and the teams prepare to ski for nine hours a day, hauling 80 kilos of kit in temperatures as low as -40C. But no amount of training could have prepared them for the frostbite, sores and altitude

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Sunday Politics. 12.15 MOTD2 Extra. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 The Sport Relief Games Show. 3.15 Alex Against the Rock. 3.45 Deadly on a Mission: Pole to Pole. 4.15 Regional Programme. 4.45 Songs of Praise. 5.20 Pointless Celebrities. 1

- 6.05 Blandings. Connie plays matchmaker.
- 6.35 BBC News; Regional News;
- 7.00 Countryfile. Ellie Harrison heads to the beaches of heads to the beaches of Norfolk, which suffered its biggest storm surge in 60 years in December. She also drops in at the RSPB's reserve in Snettisham. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team visit
- Bruce and the team visit Exeter Cathedral, where items include a table apparently used by Bonnie Prince Charlie and artwork painted by Edward VII as a child.
- child.

 9.00 The Musketeers. The quartet escort the queen to a forest pool renowned for its powers of fertility but when an assassin strikes they escape to a convent, where Aramis meets a face from the past.
- 10.00 BBC News; Regional News
- 10.25 Match of the Day 2. Southampton.
- 11.25 Film: Butterfly on a Wheel. (2007) Thriller, starring (2007) Thriller, starring Pierce Brosnan. 12.55 Weatherview. 1.00 BBC News.

RRC2

6.00 Film: Angels One Five. (1953)
7.35 Mountain. (R) 8.35
Countryfile; (R) Weather for the
Week Ahead. 9.30 Gardeners'
World. (R) 1.00 Saturday Kitchen
Best Bites. 11.30 James Martin:
Home Comforts. (R) 12.15 Michel
Roux's Service. (R) 2.15 Ex-S. 2.45
Film: Know Where I'm Going!
(1945) 4.15 Flog It! (R) 5.00
Collectaholics. (R)

Collectaholics. (R)

6.00 The Hairy Bikers:
Restoration Road Trip. Si
King and Dave Myers help
rebuild an early traction
engine before learning how it
revolutionised farming, and
restore a rare barge once
used to transport coal on
Parts to except (O) Britain's canals. (R)

Britain's canals. (R)
Wild Burma: Nature's Lost
Kingdom. The team splits up
to search for tigers. Last in
the series. (R)
Lambing Live: Farming
Familes. New series. Kate

Humble and Adam Henso revisit people featured in previous series.

Louis Theroux's LA Stories: City of Dogs. New series. Different aspects of Los Angeles, beginning with the city's neglected and feral

10.00 Mock the Week Looks Back

at Royals. Another selection of material from the show's archives. (R)

10.30 Line of Duty. Fleming remains determined to prove Denton had a role in the ambush. Last in the series. (R)

11.30 Film: London River. (2009) Drama, with Brenda Blethyn 12.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 1.50 Holby City. (R) 2.50 Silk. (R) 3.50 This Is BBC Two.

ITV **CHANNEL 4**

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Freesports on 4. 7.30 Challenge Wanaka Tirlathion. 3.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.35 Secret Eaters. (R) 1.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.05 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.05 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.05 The Big Sang Theory. (R) 2.05 6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. 6.10 Dino Dan. (R) 6.25 Matt Hatter Dan. (R) 6.25 Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) 6.45 Canimals. (R) 6.55 Canimals. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R) 7.10 Om Nom Stories. (R) 7.15 Om Nom Stories. (R) 7.20 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Scrambled! 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.30 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 11.25 ITV News; Weather. 11.35 The Unforgettable Dudley Moore. (R) 12.05 Agatha Christies Marple. (R) 2.00 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries. (R) 2.25 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 3.10 River Monsters. (R) 4.15 Film: The Spy Who Loved Me. (1977) 6.10 Film: Rio. (2011) Premiere

A domesticated bird gets lost in Rio de Janeiro, and has to learn to fly to get back to his owner. Animated comedy, with the voices of Jesse Eisenberg and Anne Hathaway.

Eisenberg and Anne Hathaway. The Million Pound Necklace: Inside Boodles. Documentary following exclusive jewellers Boodles, as they launch their most expensive collection yet, created from a set of rare Colombian emeralds.

9.00 Film: The Tourist. (2010) A woman tries to trick the police into thinking a tourist appearance surgically changed. Romantic thriller, with Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie.

Angelina Jolie.

10.55 Film: Dogma. (1999) A lapsed Catholic must stop two fallen angels returning to Heaven or it will mean the end of the world. Cornedy fantasy, starring Matt Damon, Ben Affleck and Linda Fiorentino. 1.20 The Good Wife. (R) 2.05 The Hotel. (R) 3.00 Secret Removers. A

husband arranges a surprise for his wife. (R) 4.00 SuperScrimpers. (R) 4.55 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.50 River Cottage Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5
6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fifi
and the Flowertots. (R) 6.25 Bubbic
Guppies. (R) 6.35 The M Men
Show. (R) 6.50 Chloe's Closet. (R)
7.00 Milkshakel Boy Box. (R) 7.05
Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.10
Rananas in Piyamas. (R) 7.25 Make
Way for Noddy. (R) 7.40 City of
Friends. (R) 7.50 Milo Mao. (R)
7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.10
Milkshakel Monkey. (R) 8.15
Milkshakel Monkey. (R) 8.15
Angelina Ballerina. (R) 8.40 Ruper
Bear. (R) 8.50 Toby's Travelling
Circus. (R) 9.00 Ben and Holly's
Little Kingdom. (R) 9.15 Jelly
Jamm. (R) 9.30 LazyTown. (R)
1.00 Power Rangers Super
Samural. (R) 10.35 Access. 10.50
Hilm: Arthur and the Invesibles.
(2006) 12.30 Film: Hoodwinked. Film: Arthur and the Invisibles. (2006) 12.30 Film: Hoodwinked (2005) 2.05 Film: Zoom. (2006) 3.50 Film: The Witches. (1990) 5.35 5 News Weekend. 5.40 Film: The Great Escape. (1963) 9.00 The First Great Escape.

Ine Hirst Great Escape.
Documentary examining an escape by British officers from the Holzminden PoW camp in July 1918 that inspired the famous breakout from Stalag Luft III in March 1944.

1944.

10.00 The Great Escape:
Revealed. The true story of
the famous PoW breakout.

11.00 Film: A Bridge Too Far.
(1977) Fact-based drama
recreating a Second World

recreating a Second World
War campaign to capture a
series of strategically
important bridges. Starring
Dirk Bogarde.
2.25 SuperCasino. 3.10 Dangerous
Drivers' School (R) 4.00 Wildlife
SOS. (R) 4.20 Make It Big. (R) 4.50
The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.00
Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.10 Hana's
Helpline. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm.

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 The Voice UK 8.55 The Voice UK Results 9.30 Russell Howard's Good News 10.00 Family Guy
10.45 Bluestone 42 11.15
American Dad!

BBC Four

7.00 Magnificent Machines: The 7.00 Magnificent Machines: The Golden Age of the British Sports Car 8.00 Mark Lawson talks to Joanna Trollope 9.00 Martin Amis' England 10.00 Some Football Managers with Jokes 10.30 Film: You Will Be My Son (2011)

ITV2
2.15 Film: Honey (2003) 4.10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway
5.40 Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) 7.50 Film: Whip It (2009) 10.00 The Only Way Is Essex 10.50 Party Wright Around the World 11.50 The Big Reunion 2014

3.40 Rosemary & Thyme 4.45 A Touch of Frost 7.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot 9.00 Film: Mamma Mia! (2008) Musical comedy, starring Meryl Streep. 11.15 Cracker

ITV4

3.05 Film: Kelly's Heroes (1970) 6.00 Storage Wars 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union 9.00 Film: Get Carter (1971) 11.20 Hell on Wheels

54 3.30 The Tomorrow People 4.30 Troy: Best Bits 5.35 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 6.05 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: Dr Dolittle (1998) 9.40 The Big Bang Theory 10.10 How! Met Your Mother 10.40 My Mad Fat Diary 11.45 Rules of Engagement

2.35 Only You (1994) 4.45 27 Dresses (2008) 6.55 The Truman Show (1998) 9.00 This Is England (2006) 11.05 Silent House (2011)

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By Bertolt Brecht

and Kurt Weill

I first realised I was losing my hearing when I was struggling to hear the TV. I now wear hearing aids and

volume on the TV anymore "

no one complains about the

6.35 Regional Programme; Weather.

ITV News; Weather.
Catchphrase. Stephen
Mulhern hosts the game
show in which three
contestants guess the
familiar phrases hidden in
animated clues, before one
of them plays to win
£50,000.

8.00 Harry's South Pole Heroes.
Part two of two. Prince Harry
embarks on his expedition in
the Antarctic with four
injured British soldiers as

Wounded South Pole Allied Challenge.

9.00 Mr Selfridge. Harry is desperate to clear his name. Last in the series.

10.01 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 You Saw Them Here First. With Patsy Kensit, Mark Benton, David Threffall, Tony Robinson and Kimberley Walsh, (R)

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union

12.15 The Store. 2.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

part of the Walking with the Wounded South Pole Allied

6 45 ITV News: Weather

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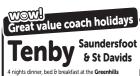
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Film Choices

MONDAY
The Man Behind the Gun, Channel 4, 1pm
sepholiteacher on a mission to root A soldier poses as a schoolteacher on a mission to roo out a band of insurrectionists who are plotting to break away from the Union and reintroduce slavery. Before long, he starts to fall for a fellow teacher, but suspects his rival for her affection may be involved with the militants. Western, starring Randolph Scott. (1953)

TUESDAY

Back to You and Me, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A doctor returns home after many years for a school reunion and tries to rebuild her relationship with her estranged mother, whom she has not seen since her father's death. The experience proves both enlightening and surprising, as she discovers her childhood sweetheart is now a widower, and a dark secret is revealed, Drama, starring Lisa Hartman Black, Dale Midkiff and Rue McClanahan. (2005)

Murder on the 13th Floor, Channel 5, 3,20pm A woman discovers her husband is having an affair with their live-in nanny and plans revenge. The childminder discovers she and the couple's son have been locked in their 13th-floor apartment along with two hitmen hired to kill her. Thriller, starring Tessa Thompson. (2012)



Vicky Cristina Barcelona, Channel 4, 12am ductive painter, who invites them to spend time wit in at his home in Oviedo. Though the more timid of the pair is initially reluctant, her free-spirited friend persuades her to come along, resulting in a series of romantic encounters and an explosive experience with the artist's exwite. Woody Allen's comedy, with Scarlett Johansson and Rebecca Hall. (2008)

My Neighbour's Keeper, Channel 5, 3.10pm

Kate works in a home for disadvantaged children and longs for kids of her own, but is unable to conceive. en her best friend is murdered, Kate adopts her two youngsters, but it is not long before those around her question whether she had a hand in their mother's death to gain the family she always wanted. Drama, starring Laura Harring and Linden Ashby. (2007)

Scent of a Woman, ITV, 10.35pm

A blind, hard-drinking war veteran pays a timid college student to accompany him on a weekend break in the big city, where he plans to make the most of life. However, the youngster is shocked to learn that his new friend plans to kill himself. Comedy drama, starring an

Pick of the Week

New series will prove to be far from child's play

raise be – the Reverend Adam Smallbone is back at last. Two years is a long time between sermons – here's hoping Tv's best-loved vicar has spent that time away from our screens coming up with inspiring new subjects and honing his delivery.

Let's face it, his parish could use a few more devotees – inner-city London was always going to be a tough gig, and despite his best efforts, Adam hasn't really managed to win over the locals, unless you count unstable Mick, alcoholic lost soul Colin and lovesick Adoha.

They're all back for this third series, which Tom Hollander, who co-created the sitcom with writer James Wood, says was a dream to

"I found it very comforting and reassuring and it's very lovely to do something that you have done before which people have enjoyed," he remarks. There was none of the stress you normally have playing a new part where you go, 'Oh, I morder if it works if I do this or if I

do that' whereas, because we've done two series there's a relaxation of putting on a, you know, favourite old cardigan or something."

Also back is Olivia Colman, She may have become Britain's pr TV actress since the last run of Rev was aired, thanks to performances in Broadchurch, Run, Accused and The Thirteenth Tale, but she found time in her hectic diary for this.

"There's something comforting about knowing we're back because people liked it, so we're doing something right," she says. "It's a shame you have to do anything on the first day, It'd be nice if it was a write-off because you're just chatting and catching up. It's lovely.

There's about to be a new addition to the couple's lives when we meet him again – Alex gives birth to their long-awaited first child, a girl, in dramatic circumstances.

"The baby belongs to the Parish suddenly," explains Colman. "So, everyone who is knocking on the door anyway is now also knocking

which is very irritating to Alex."
There's also little time for paternity leave, because Adam's parish duties continue to weigh heavy on him. In the first episode, he joins forces with an Imam in an attempt to improve the local community, but is left wondering if his new colleague has a hidden agenda.

Also giving poor Adam a headache are the new Area Dean and Diocesan secretary who seem to have big but destructive plans for St Saviour's.

Kayvan Novak, Joanna Scanlan and Vicki Pepperdine guest star as the newcomers, and the general consensus of opinion from Hollander and Colman is that they're "brilliant".

Colman perhaps sums up Rev's appeal best when she describes it as: "well-written, beautiful and the people are loveable and flawed. It's got a soft underbelly and a humility which is easy to love."

And long may that continue



Olivia Colman and Tom Hollander star in Rev, Monday, BBC2, 10pm

Best of the Rest

Watching a drama based on a true story can be an odd experience. Chances are you already know what the outcome is, so where does the tension come from? Thankfully, the screenplay for this three-parter was penned by Bafta-winner Jeff Pope who's an expert at turning real cases into gripping drama by making viewers wonder how characters will get out of certain situations – or when they're going to be caught. In this second episode, Malcolm Webster is now settled back in Scotland with his second wife Felicity and their son. He's still plotting to murder her, and after his first scheme is varted, comes up with a new plan..

My Spiral into Debt Hell Channel 5, 9pm

It seems everywhere you turn these days a payday oan company is trying to flog you their services vith another gimmicky advert. However, after watching this powerful documentary, even if you vere slightly tempted before, you'll think again. Household debt is at record levels and this programme meets people who have suffered financial disaster - and it makes for shocking viewing, Among them is Debra from County Durham who thought it would be simple enough to borrow £500 for a computer – the reality was that her loan would turn into a 10-year nightmare and end up costing her £88,000 as well as her home. Plus, a city boy who's paying the price for his lavish lifestyle, and a man who blames his bank for his

TUESDAY The Missino Channel 4, 10pm

It's a frightening statistic, but every two minutes, someone in Britain goes missing. Fortunately, the majority are found again within 48 hours, but 2,000 a year simply vanish, leaving a host of unanswered questions behind. This moving documentary meets three families who have had to deal with the disappearance of a loved one – a brother, a husband, and a mother. In all three cases, it was completely out-of-character for the missing person to have simply left without contacting anyone, and the police are as baffled as everyone else. The programme finds that the friends and relatives often feel as if they are in limbo,

while some have gone to extraordinarylengths to try to bring the missing person

WEDNESDAY Big Star's Little Star ITV. 8pm

Don't ever work with children or animals that's the golden rule in telly, they say, as no-one likes unpredicability. But the leading lights behind this superb series understand that actually, it's the little ones who make the best television - because of their

unpredictability. For the producers behind this game show, the youth are comedy gold, as Stephen Mulhern grills them about their celebrity parents and hopes they will spill their deepest secrets. First up, are sporting stars (and they are good sports for putting themselves through this) 2003 Rugby World Cup winner Ben Cohen, 2000 Olympic champion in the heptathlon Denise Lewis and footballer Neil 'Razor' Ruddock. A few laughs at the celebs' expense all in the name of charity never hurt

BBC1, 9pm

For those of us who struggle to recognise one end of a spatula from the other, the Beeb's signature

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culinary effort has kept us entertained for years. But now that MasterChef has hit its tenth series, we're left with little choice but to sit up and learn a

thing or two, as John Torode and Gregg Wallace return with a new batch of amateur cooks keen to prove their worth. The first six hopefuls take on a new challenge as they prepare their Calling Card, a dish which showcases their talent But the group are soon whittled down, and the decision lies with John and Gregg as to who will reach the

THURSDAY Salting the Battlefield BBC2, 9pm

Ooh, BBC2, you're spoiling us! Last week viewers were treated to Turks & Caicos, the eagerly awaited second part of David Hare's trilogy of dramas about British agent Johnny Worricker. Hats off to the casting genius who teamed up Bill Nighy and Christopher Walken for that one. Now here's the final instalment of Worricker's story although, disappointingly, it's minus the wonderful Walken. This time, Worricker and Margaret Tyrrell are on the run across Europe, with MI5 snapping at their heels. Neither of them had expected life in exile to be so difficult, so Worricker makes a decision that will change his life forever – it's time to confront the all-powerful Prime Minister, Alec Beasley, Only one man can win their battle of wits - but which one?

FRIDAY A Very British Renaissance BBC2, 9,30pm

If the latest edition of this documentary is anything to go by, Elizabethan England was an exciting place to be. The country had cut its ties with Catholic Europe, and was now fervently Protestant - at least on the surface. Poets were writing in codes, while art and architecture conveyed secret meanings via mysterious symbols. Dazzling works were also created by Elizabethans who suddenly felt confident thanks to their nation's standing in the world. Among the treasures showcased here by presenter James Fox are exquisite miniatures painted by Nicholas Hilliard, and the earliest surviving example of a globe, created by Emery Molyneux

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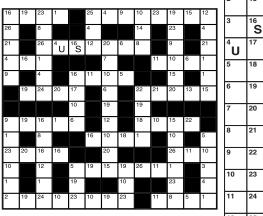
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
G	Y	M	L	5	Т	Q	P	F	С	J	X	R
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Е	U	Z	0	18 K	Α	D	W	В	Н	S	V	N

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid

Cryptic Clues:

6 He decides to make

- a rarebit (7)
- 7. Soft melodies for couples (5)
- 9. Appears to make sound joints (5)
- 10 He's nice and
- foreign (7) 12. Intelligence in the making (11)
- 14. It won't keep you fully occupied (4-4.3)
- 18. One needs a couple of rings to get this number (7)
- 19. Turner writes articles in French and English (5)
- 21. Separate verse form (5)
- 22. His initial confusion was amusing (7)

- 1. In a small way you'll find me prepared to fight (5)
- 2. He may fly from Marian (6)
- 3. Carve a name, we hear (3)
- 4. Edible wood? (6)
- 5. Don't stop, although a person's upset (5,2)
- 8. My niche, a cleft in a cliff? (7)
- 11. A fir-cone, perhaps, seen in the wood (7)
- 13. Greetings that affect us least (7) 15. I tried a more
- orderly arrangement
- 16. A speaker who is skilled at splitting alternatives (6)
- 17. What he does is appropriate (5)
- 20. Fit for a little physical training (3)

Quick Clues:

- 6. Watery (7)
- 7. Narrative (5)
- 9. Devoutness (5)
- 10. Advent (7)
- 12. Incitement (11)
- 14. Disbelief (11)
- 18. Clearness (7)
- 19. Amusing (5)
- 21. Confuse (5)

- 1. Fit out (5)
- 2. Improved (6) 3. Owing (3)
- 4. Rigorous (6)
- 5. Producer (7)
- 8. Small thorn (7)
- 11. Greed (7)
- 13. Contain (7)
- 15. Seldom (6)
- 16. Three times (6)
- 17 Mock (5)
- 20. Shed (3)

Sudoku

	1	3			6		2	
8	7		5		4			6
				8		1		
9	5		1					
	8	4		3		7	6	
					5		1	9
				6				
	9	8	4		7		3	1
	2					6	7	

Fill in the grid below so that every column boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.



LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Detonation; 7 Aroma; 8 Toddler; 10 Long shot; 11 Harp; 13 Recipe; 15 Damsel; 17 Aces; 18 Reserved; 21 Earnest; 22 Dense; 23 By and large. Down: 1 Drown; 2 Transept; 3 Notion; 4 To-do; 5 Orleans; 6 Tailor-Iransept; 3 Notion; 4 Io-do; 5 Orleans; 6 I lailor-made; 9 Rope ladder; 12 Lavender; 14 Clearly; 16 Dental; 19 Venue; 20 Lean. QUICK - Across: I Particular; 7 Aired; 8 Special; 10 Dismayed; 11 Ring; 13 Employ; 15 Street; 17 Drop; 18 Well-do-to; 21 Diploma; 22 Avers; 29 Prospectus. Down: 1 Parts; 2 Radiator; 3 Instep; 4 Used; 5 Asinine; 6 Hard-headed; 9 Lighthouse; 12 Stalwart; 14 Prosper; 16 Relate; 19 Omens; 20 Toss.











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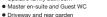
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- 2 family bathroom 1 with a showe Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing



- roperty
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- . Upstairs family bathroom





- Pleasant upstairs family bathroom
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A traditional 2 bed end terrace property

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1 spacious reception room

Stylish upstairs family bathro

Parking, Garage EPC rating D

- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs bathroom with showe
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 DSS accepted EPC rating D



Follyhouse Lane

1 spacious reception room

New fitted kitchen/diner with cooker

netairs hathroom with sh

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Rear garden and Driveway EPC rating E

- A well presented 2 bed 1st floor apart
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- Downstairs bathroom with shower Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
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 Pleasant family bathroon Town Centre Location



The Shambles

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+ Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing In Need of Modernisation
 OFFERS AROUND:
 Viewing: £79,950 epc C, reception ha OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:

Extended semi detached
 upvc double glazing + gas central heating
 payment shale

£85,000



Modern Detached
 Gas central heating + no upward chain
 Sought after cull de sac location

 Rear Garden, Porch an OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £179,950



Modern semi detached
 Upvc double glazing + gas central heating
 Sought after location

 Epc rating, Reception OFFERS AROUND:
Viewings £108,000

David Road



Semi Detached
 Corner Position
 In need of attent



£107,950

AWAITING

PIC



Conservatory OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:

£105,000

£139,950

£115,000



Terrace
Upvc double glazing + gas central heating

• Epc rating D, Reception hall OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £67,500

> **AWAITING PIC**



£90,000

Salisbury Road West Bromwich



£99,950

One Bedroom House
 Lounge & Kitchen
 First Floor Bathroom
 Double Glazing & Parking.

£76,950 Viewing:

 epc, porch + aecep
 OFFERS AROUND:
 Viewing: £79,950

Griffiths Road West Bromwich



£90,000



 Internal Inspection Es
 OFFERS AROUND:
 Viewing: £95,000

Modern 2 Bedroom Hou

Yale Road Willenhall

Lounge
 Breakfast Kitcher OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:

£125,000



Four Bedroom Detact
 Two Garages To Side
 Spacious Rear Garde

 Energy Rating TBC, Doub OFFERS AROUND:
Viewing: £299,950

Lounge
 Breakfast Kitchen

2 Redroom Semi Detached Ho

24/7 Concierge Service & Assistance
 On Site Restaurant, Living Spaces & Beauty Salor

, Utility
 OFFERS AROUND:
 Viewing:

Housing 21 Developmer
 OFFERS AROUND:
 Viewing:

£125,000

£104,950

£320,000

£139,950

Energy Rating TBC, Doi OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:



£265,000

OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £130,000



rough Lounge & Co

OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £245,000



Contemporary Style End Town H
Two Double Bedrooms

OFFERS AROUND:

£124,950

Sunroom
 OFFERS AROUND:

Kitchen/Dine

OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:

, bathroom
 OFFERS AROUND:
 Viewing:

£139,950

£93,000

£100,000



Two Reception Rooms OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:

OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:



 , Bathroom With W OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £67,500

Fore & Rear Garden, I OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:







Off Road Parking & Rear Ga OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:



£150,000

£149,950



 Viewing Essential To Ap OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £137,500



 Spacious Family Accommo OFFERS AROUND: Viewing: £264,950

Viewing Essential To Ap OFFERS AROUND: Viewing:

Three Bedroom Detached Property
Through Lounge & Dining Room



£176,500

OFFERS AROUND: £250,000

Walsall 01922 241100 **Tipton** 0121 5223733 Willenhall 01902 633323 Bilston 01902 494966

Wednesbury 0121 5053533

West Bromwich 0121 5252111

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32



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Willenhall KINGFISHER GROVE

- Conservatory & ORP

 Lounge

 Kitchen

 Utility

 En-Suite



DALBY ROAD

- Three Bedroom Detached Property
- Gas Central Heating
 Dining Room
 Kitchen
 Utility
 Gif Road Parking and a Garage

ROWLEY STREET



- Walsall COALPOOL LANE

- Three Bedroom Semi
 LoungeoFitted Kitchen/Diner
 Family BathroomoSorry No DHSS
 Front and Rear Gardens



Bloxwich LANCASTER PLACE

- Two Bedroom Semi
- Lounge
 Diner
 Kitchen
- Gas Heating●Gardens●DHSS

Accepted

£500 PCM



- ASTBURY CLOSE

- Two Bedroom Terrace
 One Reception room
 Kitchen
 Gas Central Heating
 Double Glazing



- LUCKNOW ROAD
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
 Lounge•Kitchen•Bathroom
 D.Glazing & Central Heating•Gardens
 Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers



- DARTMOUTH CLOSE
- THREE BED TERRACE
 D.Glazing
 Lounge
 Dining Room
 Kitchen
 Family Bathroom
 Gardens
 DHSS Accepted



- SHREWSBURY CLOSE
- Three Bedroom Terrace
 Lounge•Dining Room
 Kitchen•Bathroom
 Front & Rear Gardens
- - £475 PCM



- LORD STREET
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
 LoungeeDining Room
 KitcheneFamily Bathroom
 GardenseDHSS ACCEPTED

£475 PCM





SCHOOL LOFTS

- Two Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
 Fitted Kitchen
 Shower Room
 Open Plan Lounge
 Double Glazing
 Security Entrance



Walsall TELFORD ROAD

- Double Glazing
 Lounge
 Lounge
 Mitchen/Diner
 Side Passage
 Utility
 Family Bathroom
 Front and Rear



- SCHOOL LOFTS,CECIL STREET

- Two Bedroom Flats
 Integrated Kitchen Lounge/Kitchen
 Shower Room Off Road Parking
 Intercom Access Electric Heating

From £460 PCM



Walker Road GUILD COURT

Two Bedroom Apartments
 Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
 BathroomeGas Central Heating
 Double GlazingeAllocated Parking





Walsall APPLEDORE ROAD

- Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
- C.Heating & D.Glazing
- Parking to Rear
 Lounge/Diner
- Sorry No DHSS or Pets

£450 PCM



- BASALT CLOSE
- Two Bedroom End of Terraced
 Lounge and Fitted Kitchen
 Bathroom with Shower fitted over bath
 ORP*D.Glazing and Electric Heating

£450 PCM



- Walsall WENLOCK GARDENS
- Three Bedroom terraced property
 Lounge
 Dining Room
 Bathroom
 Front and Rear Gardens
 DHSS Accepted



- MILLFIELD AVENUE
- TWO BEDROOM First Floor Flat
 Gas Central Heating D. Glazing
 Lounge with feature fireplace
 Fitted Kitchen Bathroom DHSS



- Bloxwich CHANTRY AVENUE
- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
 Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating
 Lounge
 Kitchen
 Family Bathroom
 Front and Rear Gardens



- THORNBURY ROAD
- One & Two Bed Apartments
 Lounge•Fitted kitchen
 Bathroom•Electric Heating
 Double Glazing•Parking•Sorry No DHSS

From £440 PCM



- Bloxwich SIGNAL GROVE
- Two Bedroom Flat
 Lounge●Kitchen●Bathroom
 Heating●Communal Grounds
 Allocated Parking



- PRINCE STREET
- Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
 Through Lounge/Diner
 KitcheneFamily Bathroom
 Rear GardeneGas Central Heating



- Walsall LEWIS STREET



- TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
 Odouble glazing & gas central heating
 Lounge
 Fitchen
 Bathroom
 DHSS Accepted



BLACKTHORNE ROAD

Three Bed Semi
LoungeeKitcheneBathroom
Part Gas HeatedeD.Glazing
ORPeGardenseSorry No DHSS

- Bloxwich HARRISON STREET
- Two Bedroom Flat
 Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
 Double Glazing•Electric heating
 DHSS Accepted



BLOXWICH ROAD

Walsall MOAT ROAD



Two Bed Flat above retail premises
Loungee Kitchen
Shower Room
DHSS Accepted





Bloxwich BARRACKS LANE

- One Bedroom Flat
 Lounge
 Kitchen
 Bathroom
 Double Glazing
 Electric Heating
 DHSS Accepted

£325 PCM





Great Barr



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Argyll Court WILLENHALL

- Bathroom with Gas Central Heating

 Offers in excess of £60,000



Webster Road WALSALL Bathroom

Front & Rear

Double Glazino

- Semi-Detached
 - Lounge
 - Kitchen/Diner



Broad Lane BLOXWICH

- Terrace
 - Loft Room
 ■Large
- Porch●Two Rear Garden Reception Rooms Double Glazing & Ga



Blakenall Lane **BLOXWICH**

- Semi-Detached W.C. Parking Potential to
- ExtendeLoungeeNO





Bloxwich Road BLOXWICH



Cresswell Crescent BLOXWICH



Squires Grove WILLENHALL

- House Apartment Garage
- Dining Room Parking D. Glazing
 - Gas Central Heating
 In the Region of £99,995



Raymond Close

- WALSALL
- Detached
- Double Glazing • Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen Garage
- Bathroom
 Oriveway

 In the Region of £110,000



Stanley Street BLOXWICH

- Offers in excess of £110,000



- ✓ No Sale, No Fee
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In the Region Of £109,950



Torridon Road WILLENHALL

- Lounge with Patio
 Doors to Rear Garden
 Kitchen
 Wet Room

Heating
In Excess of £110,000



Red River Road WALSALL

- - In the Region Of £127,950



Naunton Road WALSALL



Ravenscroft Road WILLENHALL



Newhome Way BLOXWICH



Bernard Street WALSALL



Wolverhampton Road BLOXWICH

- Detached Family Bathroom Gardens
- Breakfast Kitchen Integral Garage



Grazewood Close WILLENHALL THREE BEDROOM

DETACHED D.Glazing●Gas Heating Bathroom







We Value Your Home

FEATURED PROPERTY



- Exceptional Traditional
- Detached
- Premier Road Reception Hall
- Drawing Room
- Superb Conservatory
- Dining RoomBreakfast Kitchen
- Utility Room
- 3 Bedrooms
- Loft room/ bedroom 4
- Luxury bathroom
- En-suite to Master Bedroom
- Garage and large driveway
- Extensive rear garden
- £364.950

NEW DEVELOPMENT



- Brand New Detached
- Hall with Guests WC
- Lounge/dining room Conservatory
- Breakfast kitchen
- Four Good Size Bedrooms
- Bathroom & En-suite
- Gas Central Heating
- Double glazing

- Rear Gardens £199.950

Garage

• Three bedrooms

MYRTLE CLOSE

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

Modern Style Semi Detached

WOODLANDS

- Much Improved
- Very popular location Through lounge
- Dining room
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom
- Driveway and Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing

OFFERS OVER £135,000

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WILLENHALL

£200,000

DURSLEY CLOSE

BENTLEY

louble Lengan lear Gardens Sas Central Heating Majority Double Glazing

SNEYD LANE

ESSINGTON

TRENTHAM AVENUE WILLENHALL

£137,000



YALE ROAD WILLENHALL

uperb Modern Detached pacious Lounge, Dining Area itting Room/Dining Room tted Kitchen nree Bedrooms • Bathroom n-Suite Shower Room

Jouble Glazing las Central Heating System 'ear Gardens

£169,000



ank Detached Propert
ay rating TBC
Spacious Lounge → Dining Kitchen
Utility/WC → Conservatory
Three Bedrooms
Inse-Fitted Bathroom
Inse Central Heating
Touble Glazing
Touble Glazing
The Bathroom
The B

£164.950



WILLENHALL

• Superb Link Detached Propp
• Popular Cul De Sac Locatior
• Spacious Lounge • Dining R
• Conservatory • Kitch
• Three Bedrooms
• Re-Fitted Bathroom
• Gas Central Heating Syster
• Double Glazing
• Garage • Driveway
• Rea



COPPICE FARM

unge & Dining Room

chen • Utility

£159.950

HUNTS LANE

SHORT HEATH

Jul



WILLENHALL

£150,000



easantly Appointed
b Upward Chain
lunge • Re-Fitted Kitchen
buservatory
liree Bedrooms • Bathroom
buble Length Garage
laar Gardens

£149,995





BECCLES DRIVE WILLENHALL

 With react
 Kitchen
 Good-Size Bedrooms
 nom ● En-suite Showe ont & Rear Gardens ating System

OFFERS OVER £135,000



BIRCH COPPICE GARDENS WILLENHALL

Gas C/Heating UPVC D/Glazing Spacious Loung Rear & Side Gal

£130,000



HOUGH WAY ESSINGTON

Premier Cul-De-Sac Loca Reception Hall Lounge ● Fitted Kitchen Two Bedrooms

ole Glazing ated Parking Space Spain Available

£114,000



WALKERS FOLD SHORT HEATH

£109,950

Modern Mid Terrace Popular Location Jounge with Dining Area Sitted Kitchen Wo Double Bedrooms



ALBION ROAD WILLENHALL

ssive Dining Kitchen

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- Exceptional Modern Link
- Detached Spacious Lounge
- Dining Room
- Family Room
- Kitchen
- Four BedroomsEn-Suite Shower Room
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Garage
- Rear Gardens

£235.000



- Superb Extended Detached
- Much Improved No Upward Chain
- Hall
- Spacious Lounge
- Re-Fitted Dining Kitchen
- Conservatory
 Three Good Size Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Majority Double Glazing
- Pleasant Rear Gardens
- Garage
- Utility with WC
- Driveway

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £169,000



- Traditional style semi · Part gas central heating
 - Driveway
 - - Rear gardens
 - No chair

£125,000

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lo Chain iuperb Corner Position ipacious Lounge / Dining Room itchen Three Bedrooms le-Fitted Shower Room

Separate WC Ses Central Heating System Double Glazing ● Integral Garage Moressive Gardens

£128,000



THOMPSON STREET

THE MANOR

Period Mid Terrace Property
No Upward Chain
Lounge • Dining Room
Fitted Kitchen
Wo Double Bedrooms
Fround Floor Bathroom
las Central Herri

£89,950



WILLENHALL

sive mid terraced property ient Central Location

£89,950

- Conservatory Dining Kitchen Three Bedroom



ASHMORE LAKE ROAD WILLENHALL

- Superbly Appointed Period Semi Detached
- Lounge Dining Room Impressive Re-Fitted Kitchen Two Large Double Bedrooms ● Re-Fitted Ground Floor Bathroom
- Tandem Garage Driveway Excellent Landscaped Rear Gardens



LYNWOOD CLOSE OFF CRAB LANE

detached

Kitchen

 Bathroom Maiority double glazing

Popular location

• Three bedrooms

Lounge and dining room

n Style Link Detacher n edrooms

achroom arge Lounge litchen Gas Central Heating Majority Double Glazing Car Port



CLOTHIER STREET WILLENHALL



BUTTERMERE GROVE

- COPPICE FARM
- Popular cul-de Two bedrooms Lounge Dining kitchen Bathroom

EPC I





- Superb Immaculately Presented Modern Style Mid Terrace Spacious Lounge ● Conservatory ● Fitted Kitcher

- Rear Gardens Allocated Parking Spa

£97,500

en nd Floor Bathroom Fround Floor Bathroom wo Double Bedrooms irst Floor Shower Room Double Glazing Bas Central Heating System

£79,950



WILLENHALL

£79,950

£77,000

GOUGH STREET

WILLENHALL

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IGE ESTA 46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ

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SQUIRES GR. NEW INVENTION

ST CHADS RD, BILSTON Bedroom Extended Detached

£109,995



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A Well Presented Three Bedroom End Of Terrace Having Front Reception Room, Rear Reception Room Being Open Plan Into Modern itted Kitchen, Ground Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Family Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, First Floor Separate W.C, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Good Sized Rear Garden and No Upward Chain

THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL

Semi Having Lounge With Open Plan

Staircase, Kitchen
Diner, Conservatory,
Two Bedrooms, Family
Bathroom, D/Glazing,
C/Heating, Block
Paved Driveway To
The Fore Allowing Off
Road Parking For Two
Vehicles Ad A Private

Vehicles And A Private Enclosed Rear Garden

Staircase Kitchen





0 REQUIRED SQUIRES GR, NEW INVENTION WEBSTER ROAD, WILLENHALL





WOODSIDE WAY, Extended Two Be

Semi Detached roperty Comprising Of Entrance Hall, ounge, Fitted Kitchen Diner, Two Bedrooms. Family Bathroom And Detached Garage, Part

D/Glazing & C/Heating.



ABERFORD CL, WILLENHALL
Five Bed Semi Detached Having
Lounge, Spacious Kitchen, Dining



UPLANDS GROVE, PORTOBELLO

HILL ROAD, PORTOBELLO

£104,995

STEPHENSON AVE, BEECHDALI

oom, C/Heating, D/ ete Print Driveway



STROUD AVENUE, WILLENHALL



UPLANDS AVENUE, WILLENHALI



OVERDALE DR. WILLENHALL Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Mode Detached Garage, Carport And Driveway. MUST VIEW.



WILLENHALL ST. DARLASTON LIME AVE, BENTLEY

n Fitted Kitchen , iviodern Hamily ating, D/Glazing &





REDWOOD WAY, COPPICE FARM



GRENVILLE CLOSE, BENTLEY

LINDEN CLOSE, BENTLEY



Four Bedroom
Detached Property
Comprising Of Entrance
Hall, Lounge, Further
Separate Lounge/Diner,
Open Plan Kitchen/
Diner, Utility Area,
Ground Floor W.C, Four
Double Bedrooms With
Built-in Wardrobes,
Family Bathroom C/ Content Wardrobes,
Family Bathroom, C/
Heating, D/Glazing,
Barage, Generous Rear
Barden And Off Road





ALBION RD, WILLENHALL



BALMORAL DRIVE, WILLENHALL om Semi Comprising rch, Hallway, Lounge, n, Fitted Kitchen, Wet



MILTON RD, W-TON



Must View!

THORNE ROAD, WILLENHALL



CANNOCK RD, WILLENHALL



GIPSY LANE, WILLENHALL

HIGHMOOR CL, Three Bed Detached

laving Lounge, separate Dining Room

With UPVC Double Glazed French Doors

Fitted Kitchen, Maste Bedroom With Fitted

Wardrobes, Two Further

C/Heating, Garage And

Block Paved Driveway.

Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing

BAYNTON ROAD, WILLENHALL



THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL



Willenhall **01902 60659**



















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COMMON VIEW, PELSALL

- Newly Built Detached Property
- Lounge, Dining Room Dining Kitchen With Integrated
- Appliances Bathroom, En-Suite



HIGH ROAD, SHORT HEATH

- Three Bed Mid Townhouse Lounge & Kitchen
- Bathroom & Garden
- DG & GCH
- Special Fees Apply Contact Agent



MONCRIEFFE STREET, WALSALL

- Terraced Property
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Dining Room Bathron
- UPVC DG, GCH



- Semi-Detached House
- Lounge, Kitchen Three Bedrooms Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens



- First Floor Flat
- Lounge & Kitchen Bathroom & DG



- Mid Terraced Property
- Two Reception Rooms Kitchen With Hob & Oven
- Downstairs Bathroom Yard With Right of Way To Small



COTTERELL COURT WALSALI

- Ground Floor Flat
- Lounge / Kitchen
- Bathroom, Bedroom
- Storage Cupboard
- UPVC Double Glazing



- Second Floor Flat
- Lounge With Balcony Off
- Three Bedrooms Bathroom With Electric Showe GCH, UPVC DG



- Newly Decorated Studio Flat
- Hallway & Kitchen
- Lounge/Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Near To The Town Centre



CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON

- First Floor Flat
- Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge & Bathroom . UPVC DG . GCH





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PROPERTY AUCTION - 1st April 2014



12, CHAPEL COURT, CHAPEL STREET, PENSNETT

Immaculately presented Second Floor Flat within a lovely location

(access via Main Entrance rear of St. James' Church Hall)

Private Hallway, large Lounge, well appointed Kitchen and Bathroom, large Double Bedroom. EPC: E53

Guide: £58,000 / £63,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 10.00 am



49 KENELM ROAD, **COSELEY, BILSTON**

with pleasant outlook towards canal at rear

Three Bedroomed Semi with Gas CH, Through Lounge / Diner, extended Kitchen, Bathroom, Garden at rear, off-road Parking to front. EPC: E52

Guide: £62,000 / £65,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 11.00 am



16 BATE STREET, LANESFIELD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Very smart and spacious Three Bedroomed Bungalow

with big Kitchen, 22ft. Lounge / Diner. Modern appointments throughout. Garage, attractive Garden. EPC: D57

Guide: £118,000 / £123,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 11.45 am



209 BIRMINGHAM ROAD, BLAKENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON

Conveniently located large Three Bed Mid Terraced

Two Reception, Kitchen, Bathroom, Gas CH, uPVC windows. EPC: D62

Guide: £63,000 / £68,000 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 10.00 am



80 BIRCHES BARN ROAD, BRADMORE

In popular residential district, large Three Bed Semi needing some upgrade

20ft. Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom, Bathroom. Gas CH.

EPC: E50 Guide: £80,000 / £85,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 10.45 am



19 PROSSER STREET. WOLVERHAMPTON

End Terraced on large corner plot with big Outbuilding.

Hall, Two Reception, smart Kitchen and Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Gas CH.,

Walled Garden, 27ft, Outbuilding, EPC: E42 Guide: £57,000 / £62,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 11.45 am

LAND AT OLD STAFFORD ROAD, CROSS GREEN, COVEN HEATH



An attractive plot of Land abutting the Staffs. & Worcs. Canal towpath (Bridge No. 71). Vehicular access and with large Mobile Home Mains Water and Electricity. Private Drainage. Approx. 100ft. road frontage

Guide: £38,000 / £43,000 VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 21st & 22nd MARCH @ 12.45 pm

Please Register for Catalogue Viewings of all lots at own risk. Please note viewings are at times specified so should you arrive late you may find that your time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the viewing schedule

Mercedes - It's a class act

By Andy Enright

How can it be the car Mercedes-How can it be the car Mercedes-Benz calls its best-selling model has, for so long, felt a bit of an un-TEC and pokier C250 BlueTEC offerings. Petderachiever?

The C-Class ought to have been all the company knows about luxury saloons distilled into a four-cylinder 204PS diesel engine with a com-smaller form, but for many years it was instead pact 27PS electric motor and looks interesting, a car which was short on quality and long on as does the prospect of a plug-in hybrid model.

tion and the subsequent 2011 facelift brought version of the 7G-TRONIC automatic gearbox. even more features and better efficiency, but in The electromechanical Direct Steer system is

est car is a fresh design from the ground up and it shows.

The diesel engines include a 2.1-litre C220

rol-wise, there's a 184PS C200 unit.
The C300 BlueTEC HYBRID combines a price tag. In the here and now, there's a choice of two six-The 2007 model repaired much of its reputa-speed manual transmissions or an improved

this country, the C-Class always lagged a distant also fitted as standard. third in the compact executive sales charts.

Looking at the exterior of this C-Class, you'd be forgiven for thinking this was the most introduction of a smaller four-door saloon, the conservative of styling directions. It's tidily ex-CLA, has allowed the C-Class to become a bit ecuted, with hints of the latest S-Class in its bigger and a good deal more luxurious. The lat- detailing. The long bonnet, a passenger com-



artment set well back and short overhangs define the C-Class's classic proportions. Large wheels emphasise the rear and communicate a stylishly sporty character.

In automatic vehicles, a large one-piece cen-tre console panel performs an elegant sweep from the centre air vents to the armrest. On vehicles with manual transmission, the centre console is slightly steeper and features two separate trim elements in order to create ample space for ergonomic operation of the shift lever.

Prices for the C200 petrol start at around £27,000, while for a C200 BlueTEC diesel, you'll pay from around £29,500. To gain an insight

into quite how deep the thought process behind the new C-Class is, consider this. The air conditioning system talks to the car's satellite navigation system. When you enter a tunnel, rather than start sucking diesel fumes into the cabin from that labouring artic, the car knows it's entering a tunnel and automatically switches the air conditioning to recirculate, bringing in fresh air only when you've emerged again.

That's smart. As indeed is the Collision Prevention Assist Plus system. When a danger of collision persists and the driver fails to respond, the system is able to carry out autonomous braking at speeds of up to 125mph, thereby

reducing the severity of collisions with slowe or stopping vehicles. The system also brakes in response to stationary vehicles at a speed of up to 31mph, and is able to prevent rear-end

of up to 3 finiph, and is able to prevent rear-end collisions at speeds of up to 25mph. It doesn't take long to see how Mercedes has forged ahead with efficiency. Where the last C220 diesel emitted 117g/km of carbon diexide, the latest model trims that down to just 103g/km, with fuel economy improving from 64.2mpg to 70.6mpg. Even the entry-level petrol model, the C180, gets numbers that not so long ago would have been very respectable indeed for a diesel car in this sector:

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 373 - 88g/km.#

Thursday, March 20,

Kia refreshes best budget 4x4 - popular Kia Sportage

ket for compact SUVs hasn't changed all that much in the last ten years, but it's now radically different and the biggest beneficiary of these changes have been Kia, and more specifically its Sportage. That car's been fettled and refreshed now and still looks the best budget 4x4 not a whole lot of money can buy.

As before, you get a choice of four powerplants. There are 1.7 or 2.0-litre common-rail diesels with 113 and 134bhp respectively— or 1.6 and 2.0-litre petrols packing 138 and 161bhp.

Performance is similar with the 2.0-litre units as both manage the 0-62mph trial in under 11s with the manual gearbox installed. The entry level cars have front wheel-drive, with upper spec models getting all-wheel traction.

The Sportage uses a part-time all-wheel-drive system

which sends 100 per cent of power to the front wheels unless slippage is detected and it's automatically diverted to the rear. There's a Lock Mode for off-road driving which splits the available power 50/50 between the front and rear wheels, but it only operates below 25mph. All Sportage models have Hillstart Assist Control to help with uphill geta-ways and Downhill Brake Control to provide reassurance on steep descents.

The latest car features Kia's Flex Steer system on selected models. This allows the driver to choose between three different levels of power assistance according to preference and where the car is being driven. 'Comfort' mode provides increased help for parking or manoeuvring in tight areas, for example, while 'Sport' lessens the assistance for increased feel and stability at higher speeds. There is also a 'Normal' setting. In addition to this, the windscreen glass has been modified to reduce the amount of noise entering the cabin

Otherwise, it's still as practical as ever. It just feels a little better built. The generous dimensions of the Sportage are carried over. There's a substantial boot measuring in at 564-litres when the rear seats are occupied - or 1,353-litres when they're folded down. Storage space inside the Sportage includes a six-litre centre console bin, large door pockets and a glovebox that's air-conditioned on some

Variants

Prices kick off at around £17,500, which keeps things real and Kia has done a spot of tinkering with the mix of the model line-up. Two additional variants at the top and bottom have been added to the team sheet to further broaden the appeal to customers- an all-wheel drive 2.0 CRDi at entry level and the 1.7 CRDi turbodiesel is now an option on the top spec two-wheel drive model. The 1.6-litre direct-injection petrol unit and 1.7-litre turbodiesel made their debuts in the Sportage and remain the mainstays of the range in the UK.

Equipment levels have also been subtly boosted across

The best-performing Sportage from an economy and emissions perspective is the font-wheel drive 1.7 CRDi diesel which manages 54.3mpg and 135g/km. That's pretty good going. Should you choose petrol power, the 1.6 GDi powerplant returns a combined fuel figure of 44.1mpg and emissions of 149g/km. Should you want an all-wheel drive 2.0-litre diesel, you're looking at 49.6mpg and 149g/km

which is very good .

Beware opting for the automatic version though, as this puts a bit of a dent into the efficiency metrics at 40.9mpg

and 179g/km.

Like the rest of the Kia range, the Sportage is sold with the excellent seven-year or 100,000-mile warranty. It is fully transferable should the car be sold before the time or mileage limits have been reached. Fixed cost servicing also brings additional peace of mind via the Kia Care-3 and Care-3 Plus servicing package, offering retail customers inflation-proof servicing for the first three or five years. Again, all packages cover the car, not the owner, so are transferable should the vehicle be sold.









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Official Fuel Consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Fabia Hatch SE 1.2 12V 69PS: Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ emissions for the Fabia Hatch SE 1.2 12V 69PS 128g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.













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www.autosalesgroup.co.uk Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Skoda range: Urban 19.6 (14.4) - 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) - 4.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) - 83.1 (3.4). CO² emissions for the Skoda range 89 - 237q/km.





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Drivetime







By John Griffiths

If you want to go back to the future, you don't If you want to go back to the future, you don't peneed an eccentric scientist and a nuclear-powered silver sports car.

You can do it for an awful lot less thanks to a car make which has taken a bold new look at the market, expectations and the concept of value for money.

It hasn't exactly arrived in a flash of blinding light but this manufacturer's latest offering is something of a revelation. The Dacia Logan is a mid-sized family estate (although for cargo capacity it's not far behind big hitters like the Volvo V70) which is cheap to run, practical but costs half as much as some of its rivals. Dacia calls it an MCV, or maximum capacity vehicle, but in most other fleets its streamlined ap-

pearance would earn it a 'sports tourer' tag.

I drove the mid-range Ambiance model, with a 90bhp petrol engine capable of over 56mpg. It could be described as 'no frills' but hardly basic, with a 573 litre load bay which stretches to an impressive 1,518 with the rear seats folded

down.

The price? Wait for it — £8,595 on the road and if you are really counting the pennies you could have an entry level model for £6,995.

It's based on a stretched version of the multi award-win ning Duster platform, using using proven technology, engi neering and in many cases parts (include engines) from the Renault group which owns the Romanian company. It seems even Renault has been surprised by Dacia's suc-

cess, as it didn't originally intend to sell the cars in West-ern Europe where much of the market is dominated by badge-consciousness and the need to embrace all the lat est, must have gadgetry. But customer demand, particularly from the hard-pressed private buyer spending their own money, means that Dacia (pronounced Datch-ya) looks set to be the next big name in budget motoring.

Using well-established technology, concentrating on ba-sics, limiting such things as colour choices and accessory packs for ease of manufacture, means they can keep prices

down. It doesn't mean you have a car which does any less.

Is this a glimpse of the future, if there are still to be cars which the man in the street can afford to buy new? The £8,595 test car, for example, comes with ABS, emergency brake assist, electronic stability and traction controls, hill start assist, twin airbags, electric front windows, a radio/CD player with Bluetooth, remote central locking and split/fold

Capacity

It was powered by Renault's latest TCe petrol engine which also appears in the new Clio range. Its capacity of just 898cc seems unfeasibly small for a car of this size but with well-spaced gearchanges it will go from a standstill to 62mph in a fairly fleet 11.1 seconds.

You don't notice anything lacking on the open road, either, as this mighty atom's secret is turbocharging. Not only does it have more power than the older, normally aspirated 1,200cc unit it has almost twice the torque which makes for

smoother progress with less effort. Fuel consumption averages 56.5mpg, with a low 116g/km of CO2 emissions. The means no road tax in the first year

and just £30 annually after that.

The Renault Group's proven 1.5dCi turbo diesel, of course, has even more torque, is more economical (65.7mpg) and beats the magic 100g/km of CO2 so it's road tax free.

But, model for model, it's also £1,000 dearer so retail buy ers in particular have to do their sums. With your average mileage, and the 10p per litre premium on diesel prices

how long would it take for you to break even?

There's also the question of whether the car's main role is

for the school run, transporting the dog and other domestic duties, or whether if you're using it as an alternative to a van when the diesel's extra pulling power might be a better bet.
There's not much to say about the way the Logan drives.
For most that isn't a criticism: but just does what it does

competently. Steering is light, unless you're really working it hard you're more likely to be listening for wind noise rather than the engine, and the ride is compliant. The sub-£7,000 entry level model, the Access, is basically equipped and doesn't, for example, have such luxuries as electric windows or even a radio. But it still has the full safety pack which is standard across the range, including front and side airbags, ABS, traction and stability controls.

The Ambiance tested is better equipped, while the flag-

ship Laureate adds to its specification with upgraded trim, alloy wheels, cruise control, trip computer and electric door mirrors, electric windows on the back as well and front foo lights and yet still costs under £9,000 for the 1.2 petrol version, or £10,795 with the flagship diesel under the bonnet.

The limited number of options includes an upgraded Sat-Nav/audio pack for Ambiance and Laureate versions. The Dacia story is similar to that of Skoda's transforma-

tion by the VW Group – no-one's laughing at Skoda now.
The Dacia name isn't yet that well known in Britain but that will change if, under Renault's direction, it keeps producing cars like this which are the epitome of commonsense, prac-

ticality and value for money. Price: £8,595 (range from £6,995 to £10,795)



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JEN attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's you pls get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410949 🛱

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JANE attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. No time wasters please. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715 ₿

JULL 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410105 🗒

ATTHACTIVE professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409895 ATTRACTIVE professional ELAINE attractive 39yr old

blonde single mum s respectful male/dad similar interests for adult similar interests to friendship, hopefully leading to harbournimportant. Tel love. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410117

DONNA 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409733 A

73YR old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410331

NICKY bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking N/S male with GSOH for possible ltr. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479 🗒

KAREN 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc, WLTM for more than just friendship with similar chilled, kind, easy going guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410461 🗎

LIZ 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410395

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JOSEPH attractive Asian male, seeking attractive, genuine female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267 🗒

PAUL 62, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410799

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional male, broadminded, adventurous, clean, discreet, GSOH, easy going, good company, looking for lady for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411019

JEFF 35, GSOH, likes cinema, swimming, ice skating, seeks special female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410737

CHRIS 32, 5ft 10ins, brown hair, blue eyes, open minded, looking for female for discreet no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410643 PETE 6ft 1ins, body builder, likes kick boxing, daughter, seeking female, 30-40 for love.
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14/0031/FL

Me Abdul Tahir
FOR: To replace unauthorised front ground floor window UPVC (which replaced
the original sash window removed unlawfully) with new replica timber sliding sash
window (double glazed)
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AT: UNITS I & 2 BLOXWICH LANE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BLOXWICH LANE, WALSALD.

FOR: Amendment to planning permission 13/1652/FL for proposed extensions to the side and dormer windows to the front and rea AT: 8 THE GRANARY, WALSALL, WS9 8NY

FOR: Conversion of upper floors to create 2 no. two bed and 3 no. one bed flats. AT: 74 BRADFORD STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3QD 14/0308/LB





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14/0313/FL

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14/0349/FL

14/0299/OL

wasan Council
FOR: Fixing of wooden panel (on which memorial plaque will be mounted) on south-east wall inside the Town Hall.
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Tavern 1 Walsall Phoenix 6

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Trident FC 4 Trent Valley Rovers 6

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Anything is possible, Lalkovic

MILAN LALKOVIC has warned anything can still happen in the play-off race despite Walsall's "weird"

despite Walsall's "weird" form – as he headed back to Slovakia to finish school. The on-loan Chelsea striker has been allowed back to finish his studies.

striker has been allowed back to finish his studies. And the 21-year-old thought he had given the Saddlers a perfect leaving present when he opened the scoring at Rotherham on Saturday.

But Nicky Adams' deflected 89th minute equaliser for the hosts denied Dean Smith's side victory, extended their winless run to nine games and dropped them nine points behind sixth-placed Peterborough with just nine games to play.

with just nine games to play.
Lalkovic, who will return
in time for Saturday's home
game with Leyton Orient,
admitted the Saddlers recent lack of fortune has left
him bemused.

"It is not working for us at the moment but we must keep going to the end."

Khalsa lead is snatched

Cradley Town 1

Cradley Town 1
Sporting Khalsa 1
AS games go, this was anything but a classic, on a bobly pitch neither side could take significant control of the first half with chances restricted. The best chance of the half fell to Mark Habbershaw who went clear on goal but his shot was saved by the impressive Cradley keeper Richard Kennedy.

In the second half Khalsa

In the second half Khalsa started to get on top of the game with the opening goal through John Cordy in the 75th minute but 10 minutes later Khalsa switched off from a corpus and Carl Mar. from a corner and Carl Martin got an equaliser for the home side.

Aldridge Villa side prove they are a bit special Lambert facuses of

IS it possible that in Jose Mourinho, Lamboth possible that in lose Mourning, Land bert's players have actually found someone who finds it more difficult to win at Villa Park than they do? Whatever the root cause of this football-ing upset, everyone at the club should take

a moment today to close their eyes, recall its assault on the senses and remember this is what football at Villa Park should be about.

what tootball at Villa Park should be about. Like a long lost but cherished old friend returning, the stadium was thundering in celebration of an epic and dramatic victory on Saturday evening and when the old place does that it is one of the domestic game's grandest experiences.

Lambert and Co haven't been able to orchestrate too many in their one-and-three-quarter seasons together. Yes, there was the defeat of Manchester City – and isn't

it peculiar that this season's top two title challengers have now fallen at Villa Park –earlier this season but that was a freak of footballing nature. On Saturday, Villa snared Chelsea good and proper; ran them to a standstill, rattled them into a loss of discipline before spearing the table leaders with a solitary late goal from Fabian Delph, a vibrant and deserving man of the match.

The explosive finale will have now been splashed over every back page and bulletin across the land. Mourinho, who has still to win at Villa Park in five visits, was sent to the stands in the final minute after march. ing on to the pitch to open peace talks with warring players and a referee struggling to control them. Whether or not this was true only he will know but the picture of a frazzled and fractious Chelsea was complete. Already Ramires was on his way having been red carded for a studs-raised challenge on Karim El Ahmadi

Chelsea's ire had been stoked by the 69th-minute sending-off of William following a second booking after he briefly tugged at the shoulder of Delph.

In many ways, those were keynote incidents which summed up the game – Chelsea drawn into rash acts of malevolence by the exuberant energy of the opposition.

But as the visitors retreated to deal with But as the visitors retreated to deal with the after-shocks of a result they just did not see coming until it was too late to prevent, Villa were left assessing their brightest outlook of the season and, perhaps, for the future beyond.

Most obvious was the nine-point gap es-

Shire Oak share the spoils in inseparable final

The squad includes; Harry Buttery, Jake Nuttall, Jack Matthews, Kyle Sheldon, Harry Stretton, James Roberts Todd Langston, William Fulford, Sam Butcher, Josh Bennett, Tom Shutts, Ethan Callaghan and Jordan Selvey

tries scored dictates a winner, but

both teams had the exact same points difference. This meant that there

was no other option than to share

was no other option than to share the cup.

In the tournament, which begins with a round robin, the Year 7 team had already beaten Barr Beacon, Shelfield and St Francis on route to the final. The result in the final, though extremely remarkable, wasn't a surprise due the two teams drawing in the previous round.

Coach and PE teacher, Dominic

tablished between their welcome appearance in the top half of the table and the bottom three. The issue of survival has surely been banished from the 2014 prospectus. But it was the rejoining of fans, manager and team in a display of shared delight which can prove of even greater value to the Lambert project's viability.

In the 14 months since that nightmare In the 14 months since that nightmare with Bradford City, Lambert's authority and the credibility of his team in general, and signings in particular, have been under relentless and critical scrutiny from a disgruntled public. At times, it has seemed as if only the beast that is Christian Benteke. has kept the barricades intact from the revolution beyond.

But this performance and result has returned to the manager a vote of confidence from his public

focuses on victory not Jose

JUBILANT Paul Lambert played down Jose Mourinho's touchline tantrum after hailing Villa's "mammoth" win over Chelsea.

Chelsea.

Lambert's team banished the survival alarm
at Villa Park and jolted
the Londoners' Premier
League title charge with a
1-0 win that had a 40,000
crowd eating out of the
palm of their hands.

It was a win which
added Chelsea to the conouests of Manchester City

added Cheisea to the con-quests of Manchester City and Arsenal in an uneven season not without its problem patches for the Villa boss.

And it ended in dra-

And it ended in dra-matic circumstances as both the Villa boss and his opposite number ended up on the pitch, along with a host of substitutes and staff, when tempers boiled over after Chelsea midfielder Ramires was sent-off for a stamp on Karim El Ahmadi.

Mourinho was sent to the stands by referee

to the stands by referee Chris Foy.

"A lot of it's banter and a lot of fun. As long as it never overspills it's alright," he said. "I know what Jose's doing - he's been around the block. If you go on about decisions it deflects from the performance."

Lambert also saluted the "massive potential" of Fabian Delph.

Lockmen get lamped by Lye side

Lye Town 7 Willenhall 0

A ruthless Lye Town de-molished injury-ravaged Willenhall with a first-half seven-goal show, but the Lockmen fought valiantly to keep it level after the break.

On six minutes Matt Johnson's corner was flicked home by an unmarked Ste-phen Lodge and two min-utes later an unmarked Ben Jevons headed home.

James Spray converted a penalty on 16 minutes. Jevons headed home un-marked on 22 minutes before Spray raced away on the right on 25 minutes and lobbed home.

It was six on the half-hour as the ball was diverted in by Spray. Joe Noel and Eddie Wilson both fired wide as the Lockmen tried to take something from the game before Scott Gennard got before Scott Gennard got the seventh on 40 minutes when he raced down the left and rounded Booth before rolling home from a tight angle. The game petered before the final whistle.

Battlers Wood come away with the spoils

TWO junior rugby teams were so well matched they couldn't be sepa-rated and so had to share the spoils

rated and so had to share the spoils when it came to trophy.

The U-12s rugby team from Shire Oak Academy came out joint winners of the Walsall Cup after a closely fought final with Queen Mary's Grammar School.

After normal time, the score was tied, and golden try was played to avoid a deadlock. However, the defences of both teams could not be broken. Rules state that number of

Walsall Wood 3 Causeway United 1
SIX places and 11 points separated the teams at kick-off, but a battling, hard working performance by Wood saw them close the gap to eight points, with four games in hand as they again came from behind, this time winning ugly.

The visitors shot out of the blocks putting Wood under almost constant pressure, but the only effort on goal saw Matty Coton make a comfortable save from a rising drive from Ben Evans on six minutes.

Two minutes later Steven Hayles ball down the Wood left found Lewis Taylor Boyce, who cut inside and set up Harry Harris who hit a rising drive just over.

On 13 minutes Rion Francis-Mills won

On 13 minutes Rion Francis-Mills won the ball on halfway and raced into the box, Coton out quickly and bravely to save at

his feet. Taylor Boyce won the ball on the right of the box two minutes later, cleverly turned outside his marker before firing into

the side netting.

Causeway once again had a spell of sustained pressure and won a corner on the left on 27 minutes that was hit beyond the far post and Evans saw his first time effort cannon off the bar, before being scrambled behind for morther were Event this sea. behind for another corner. From this one a developed with Francis-Mills forcing the

a developed with Francis-Mills forcing the ball home from close range.

The lead lasted just three minutes, from a free kick wide on the left another scramble developed, this time in the away box, Taylor Boyce forcing the ball home, 1-1.

On 34 minutes a ball out of defence was collected at pace by Sam Rock wide left, his ball inside was hit first time by Reece Shil-

It was end to end stuff at the start of the second half without either goal being the second half without either goal being threatened, until on 55 minutesAaron Lloyd raced onto a ball through the centre, Coton quickly off his line to block the shot which ricocheted back off Lloyd and went wide. It was Lloyd again six minutes later, strong on the left of the box, he turned and fired narrowly wide of the far post.

Substitute Craig Hancox nearly put Wood ahead a minute later, powering his way through 3 tackles to race into the left of the box, his low drive deflecting wide off a defender.

From the corner a quick Causeway cour-

From the corner a quick Causeway counter attack ended with Francis-Mills racing onto a ball on the right of the box before firing high over.

On 79 minutes Hancox again scythed his way into the left of the box and appeared to go down under a challenge, the referee turned down the appeals and to everyone's astonishment booked the Wood player for diving. Wood were now looking the more dangerous and three minutes later won a left wing corner, which was hit to the near post and put behind for another corner. This time Harry Harris delivered the ball to the far post, the ball sailed over everyone and nestled into the far corner of the net to put Wood ahead for the first time. Wood comfortably held the visitors' desperate attacks. Joey Butlin raced into the box before being brought down. He took the spot kick himself and made no mistake, 3-1 to Wood and game over. It wasn't pretty at times but and game over. It wasn't pretty at times but Wood are now 10th.

Hitchen, said,: "I can't congratulate this young squad enough. They have shown determination and persever-

ance throughout the tournament and

they thoroughly deserve to share the

they thoroughly white title.

"They are a talented young group of players and I look forward to working with them in the next few years." he added.

Also at the academy, the U-17s celebrated winning more rugby silvers.

ebrated winning more rugby silver-ware as they won the Walsall Cup 7s tournament.

Boxer Paddock shows his belt

WALSALL light welterweight, Luke Paddock,
showed off his British
Bronze Masters Title at
Walsall FC's Banks's Stadium last week.
The 22 year-old Bloxwich
stopped Gloucester's Andy
Harris in the eighth round
at Walsall Town Hall on
March 1 and after picking
up a first belt in just his
sixth professional outing, up a first belt in just his sixth professional outing, watched Walsall draw 1-1 with Crewe last Tuesday and paraded his belt at half-time. "It was great to go back with the belt" Paddock said. "The Walsall fans were re-ally supportive so it was nice to go back with the belt."

Butlin's goal extends Wood's unbeaten run

WOOD extended their unbeaten run to 17, making it 41 points out of 51 – Joey Butlin scored the only goal of the game on 18 minutes and the floodgates should have opened, but Wood wasted a host of chances to improve their goal difference.

Wood were in almost complete control from the first whistle, penning the visitors back in their own half but with nothing to show for all their

dominance.
Then on 18 minutes Lee Then on 18 minutes Lee Stretton won the ball in the centre before playing a ball out wide left to find Joey Butlin, he took the ball well and cleverly played it back to Lewis Taylor Boyce before racing onto the slide rule return pass to hit a subrule return pass to hit a sublime chip over the advancing Jake Want in the visitors

Jake Want in the visitors goal to open the scoring.
The reply was almost instantaneous, Phil Granville racing clear wide left and crossing a dangerous ball into the box that Stretton put behind for a corner.
Then on 26 minutes Wood carved open the visitors defence, a lovely weighted ball over the top of the defence was collected at pace by Taylor Boyce, he waltzed round the stranded keeper but inexplicably passed the ball to a defender on the line. Wood continued to keep the visitors under pressure for the tors under pressure for the rest of the half but couldn't score the all important sec-

score the all important second goal.

Wood started the second half just as much in control, on 46 minutes a right wing corner was half cleared to Taylor Boyce on the right of the box, Want's block deflected the ball wide left days on the start but the visitors of the box, Want's block deflected the ball wide left days on the start but the visitors of the box, Want's block deflected the ball wide left days on the start but the visitors of the box, Want's block deflected the ball wide left days on the start but the visitors of the box of the box

Football

and Craig Hancox made the byeline, his low cross flashed just in front of Butlin almost Just in front of buttin aimost on the goal line. It was Tay-lor Boyce 6 minutes later cutting in from the right, Want again blocking the shot which dropped to Han-cox, his low drive somehow kept out by a defender on

the line.

Wood almost paid for all
the missed chances when
they gave away a stupid free
kick on the left of the boxon
56 minutes, Granville's rising drive superbly touched onto the bar by Wood keeper Raj Gill at full stretch. Then 4 minutes later another foul, this time on the right of the box saw Ruben-Jean Desrosiers fire the resultant

free kick way over.
On 73 minutes Wood broke out of defence and Hancox raced into the left of the box, Desrosiers making a graphy timed toolko

ot the box, Desrosiers making a superbly timed tackle to avert the danger.

A minute later Granville raced onto a ball over the top of the Wood defence, Gill racing from his area to fly kick clear. It was the ever dangerous Granville a minute later, collecting the ball

Butlin's beater Unbeaten streak for Wood squad goes on Dage 47

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Shire shares

Tight final means spoils are split Page 47



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play-off spot is still alive

Walsall 30
Market Bosworth 12
WALSALL secured, what was eventually a comfortable victory over a battling Bosworth team in this rear-

able victory over a batting above victory over a batting bosworth team in this rearranged league fixture. The hosts were in the lead after just two minutes thanks to Jack Crowhurst going over near the corner flag. But the visitors came back and were rewarded with a try by prop forward Hanford which Williams converted. But after this Walsall began to dominate with Benson, Dickson and Jones being very conspicuous in attack and defence. Roger Weston gave them the lead by half time with two well-struck penalties. It was the Walsall centre that opened the scoring

It was the Walsall centre that opened the scoring after the interval as he cut through the Bosworth defence to finish off another sustained attack. Walsall's bonus point scores came later in the half as No.8 Rod Dickson finished off a powerful forwards try and then full back Chris Mould got the teams fourth. He ran in from 40 metres. Weston converted both to maintain his position as the leagues' lead-ing points scorer. Indeed, he ing points scorer. Indeed, ne was unfortunate with the other two conversions. The visitors got a late touchdown but the victory has maintained Walsall's slim hopes of a play-off position.

Keep pushing Saddlers told

DEAN SMITH has urged Walsall to build on Sat-

Walsall to build on Sat-urday's performance at Rotherham as he targets a strong end to the season. Despite conceding a late leveller, which stretched their own winless streak to nine games, Smith drew plenty of positives from the 1-1 draw. But he says it is imperative his side now carry on that form into this weekend's home game with Leyton Orient. Leyton Orient.

Leyton Orient.
"That is what we have to do now at home," he said. "We are two games unbeaten so we have to push on. The tempo was much better from us on Saturday." In the first half Rotherham struggled to know what to do with us when we got the ball.
"Unfortunately with the late equaliser it's the way it's gone for us at the moment but I'm proud of the

ment but I'm proud of the

Hope of Obeng's strike gives Pics the double winner

Rushall 1 Chorley 0

RUSHALL OLYMPIC completed a league double over top of the table Chorley in a game that saw the visitors finish with just nine men.

The game was never a classic, with chances few and far between but a goal in the 13th minute from Ahmed Obeng settled the game in the hosts' favour.

The home side made a bright start to the game and on 10 minutes Obeng should have put them in front but shot wildly over the bar from close range.

But just three minutes later he made

amends when his persistence paid dividends when he fired past Sam Ashton. James Dance then fired a free-kick straight at Ashton but the visitors responded with an Andy Teague header which was straight at Chris Gemmell in the home goal.

The visitors had a let-off moments later when a dangerous cross from Christian Dacres was miskicked by Paul Jarvis but fortunately for the defender it went straight

Chris Almond then set up an opportunity

for Jack Dorney whose shot was just wide and a great run by Almond ended with a low cross safely collected by Gemmell.

Five minutes before the interval the rive minutes before the interval the home side should have doubled their lead. Dance's free-kick found the head of Jack Duggan whose point-blank header produced a fine reflex save from Ashton and then Carl Palmer saw his shot blocked.

With half-time approaching the visitors had an opportunity but Keil O'Brien saw his header easily saved by Gemmell.

The visitors opened the second half in determined fashion and Gemmell kept the

hosts in front when he produced a vital save to deny James Dean and as Chorley kept up the pressure Teague headed over. On 57 minutes O'Brien saw red for a reckless chall-lenge on Jimmy Turner and the home side had another opportunity to put the game beyond doubt beyond doubt.

Christian Dacres found Obeng, who in turn fed substitute Josh Craddock only for the midfielder to fire well over. Obeng and Craddock combined well again moments later but Dele Adebola's shot lacked power and failed to trouble Ashton. With time run-ning out the visitors saw two chances lost.

Mel glad Anelka row over

BOSS Pepe Mel believes the end of the Nicolas Anelka saga should benefit Albion's bid for Premier League sur-

The Hawthorns head coach believes the departure of Anelka, who left the club

of Anelka, who left the club on Friday with the Baggies claiming he was sacked, should remove a potential distraction from his team. Mel's comments came after news emerged the FA will appeal to FIFA to ensure Anelka does not escape punishment for his 'quenelle' goal celebration by moving countries. He tweeted on Friday that he had quit Albion, only for the club to claim just hours later that they had sacked

the club to claim just hours later that they had sacked the Frenchman for 'gross misconduct' over the gesture at West Ham in December and Friday's tweets.

Mel said: "My relationship with Nicolas Anelka was good and he helped me but 1 hope now the situation is resolved in the best way possible for all parties.

"The club needs all of its forces and energy to move forward.

forward.

"We are professionals and not keeping West Bromwich Albion up would be a failure for everyone."

Contract talks are put on hold

RICHARD STEARMAN'S future will remain in limbo up until Wolves' promo-tion fate is decided after it emerged all contract talks with senior players have been put on hold.

The former Leicester de fender has been in excellent form in recent weeks, help-ing Wolves to six consecutive clean sheets

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LAST GASP GOA IES SADDLE

A MINUTE plus stoppage time, that's how close Walsall were.

That's how close they were to ending their eight game winless streak in the most impressive fashion, by inflicting a first defeat for 11 games on Rotherham.

It's how close they were to maintaining realistic hopes

It's how close they were to of the play-offs. Dean Smith claims not to be supersti-tious but even he must have wondered whether one of his players has broken a mirror and not told him, when Nicky Adams' 89th minute shot deflected off Paul Downing, over keeper Richard O'Donnell and went in off the bar.

It cancelled out Milan

in off the bar.

It cancelled out Milan
Lalkovic's superbly crafted
19th minute opener, gave
the hosts an equaliser they
barely deserved and left the
Saddlers still waiting for
that elusive win.

Fortune

This rotten run has not been all about bad luck but there's no denying fortune has rarely favoured them these past nine games. Here they were also left to rue the sending off of Ben Purk-iss for two needless yellow cards, which saw them play the final 20 minutes with 10

men. The winless run and some performances – most nota-bly last Tuesday's against Crewe – had begun to raise questions about the true progress of the Saddlers this

season.

This display went some way to reasserting their standing as one of League One's brightest young sides

Football

even if it did not, in the end,

provide the win they craved.
After stumbling to a point in midweek, you feared for Smith's men against the inform Millers, who at kick-off still had hopes of automatic

still had hopes of automatic promotion.

But the hosts were kept largely in check by the visitors and barely tested keeper Richard O'Donnell until he was beaten in the most unfortunate manner.

For the Saddless it was a

For the Saddlers it was a For the Saddlers it was a performance built on solid defence but which featured much more of the precise, up tempo passing which Smith had demanded prior to the game.

to the game.

Whether Lalkovic is wearing a Walsall shirt next season is open to question. Rotherham to iled for much of the opening half but found Butler and Chambers impossible to pass and when defender Kari Arnason did elude the pair early in the second half he proceeded to head over the bar. head over the bar.

head over the bar.
Even reduced to ten the
Saddlers looked capable of
holding out until Revell finally beat Butler to a long
ball, Kieran Agard helped it
on and Adams fired in via a
wicked deflection.



Walsall's Kieran Agard and team mate Febian Brandy fight it out for the ball against Rotherham

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